

Gay Community News

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SAVE GCN

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\$50,000 is needed for GCN to survive, and \$4,000 must come in this week.

In July, *GCN* put a plea for money in the letters pages. Since then, we have been asking in these pages for reader support, and the contributions sent in have enabled us to continue publication over the past three months, as well as arrange payment plans with some of our creditors. Still, we have only raised a portion of the money needed to put the paper on sound financial footing. Each week, we struggle to meet our budget for producing the paper.

We are making progress toward our goal.

To illustrate our need and keep you aware of our progress, this thermometer will appear in the paper each week until we reach our goal.

Take this thermometer seriously!

The thermometer is inching up, but we have not yet reached our goal. We need an additional \$29,000 to save *GCN*.

Please don't wait until it's too late.

A number of gay & lesbian publications have failed in the past year. Can we afford to lose *GCN*, one of the few remaining forums for our voices?

We can save GCN.

The Staff and Board are working to improve the financial situation of *GCN* and enact structural changes have been made to increase financial accountability and strengthen the organization. We have pared down our budget to survive the recession. But we can't do it alone. Please give what you can today.

The struggle continues

By Gordon Gottlieb

Until the office burned down in 1982, *GCN's* papers of Incorporation from the Massachusetts Secretary of State's office hung unceremoniously in the bathroom at the old Bromfield Street office. Founded in the heady early days of gay and lesbian liberation (it was liberation then, not rights), *GCN* has always struggled with its twin identities—a self-described voice of social change on the one hand, and a quarter- to half-million dollar enterprise (albeit non-profit) on the other.

GCN started out in 1973 as little more than a mimeographed calendar of events—a listing of activities and events for Boston's increasingly visible, vibrant community of gay men and lesbians. It was a collective effort prepared with loving inefficiency by a group of committed volunteers. Early on, though, they realized that a core group of paid staff was needed, and the staff collective was formed, supported by volunteers who did everything from write stories to lay out the copy and stuff the envelopes for the weekly mailing, as continues today.

GCN has always embraced controversy. In the mid-1970s, *Gay Community News* formally incorporated a commitment to feminism as an essential element of its identity. What today seems natural and self-evident was at the time a source of great internal uproar. While lesbians had been involved with *GCN* from the beginning, gay men

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Quote of the week

"I don't honor anyone—whether it be Magic Johnson, my neighbor or a member of my family—anyone that has AIDS.... I'm against AIDS and I'm against homosexuality.... You can stop AIDS, you know what it is. It comes from sex. That can be stopped. I don't like the disease, I don't like people who have AIDS, I don't like the way it comes about."

—Michigan legislator *Domenic Jacobetti*, when asked why he refused to support a resolution of tribute to Michigan native *Magic Johnson*, who announced earlier this month that he had tested positive for HIV. Currently serving his 19th two-year term, *Jacobetti* is Michigan's senior legislator and chair of the state House Appropriations Committee.

Julio Rivera murderers convicted

NEW YORK—In what activists are calling a rare instance of gaybashers being brought to justice, two young men were convicted Nov. 20 for last summer's brutal killing of a gay man in Queens (see *GCN* Vol. 19, No. 16).

Erik Brown and Esat Bici were found guilty of "acting in concert" with a friend, Dennis Doyle, in the savage murder of Julio Rivera.

The three men, who planned to beat up a gay man on the night of July 2, armed themselves with a plumbers wrench, a hammer and a knife. They then went to a schoolyard in an area of Queens that is notorious for gay male cruising. Doyle reportedly lured Rivera to a secluded area, where the three men beat, stabbed and killed him.

According to the *New York Times*, the verdict against Brown and Bici carry second-degree murder penalties. The two men face sentences of life imprisonment; whether they will be eligible for parole in 15 or 25 years will be determined at a Jan. 10 sentencing hearing before Judge Ralph Sherman.

Doyle testified against his cohorts in a plea-bargaining deal, by which the prosecution has agreed to charge him with a lesser crime of first-degree manslaughter. He faces a maximum of 25 years in prison, with the possibility of parole in as few as 8 1/3 years.

Gay and lesbian rights activists expressed relief at the jury's verdict in the trial of Brown and Bici. "It sends a message to everybody that we have the right to live and that that kind of violence will not be tolerated," said Rafael Ruiz-Ayala, a member of Latino Gay Men of New York.

—Jacob Smith Yang

African American AIDS money cut

SAN FRANCISCO—The only AIDS prevention and advocacy organization funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) serving African American gay and bisexual men was cut by 43 percent. The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of the National Association of Black and White Men Together announced Nov. 14 that it was one of 30 programs for people of color funded by the CDC that were cut, and it received the most severe cuts.

The Task Force blasted Congress's decision to withdraw \$14 million from the CDC budget and use it to fund the Ryan White Care Act. According to the director of the Task Force, Reggie Williams, that action by Congress effectively pitted "the needs of prevention programs against the needs of groups that are providing treatment and care to people with HIV." The Task Force also criticized the CDC's decision to balance its budget by cutting programs serving people of color.

"We think it's time the people whose lives are being affected by callous indifference and malignant neglect let elected representatives and government agencies know their concerns in no uncertain terms," Williams said.

—Dawn Schmitz

Domestic partners in Mass.?

BOSTON—Gov. William Weld is considering issuing an executive order that would allow some domestic partnership rights for state employees, according to news leaked Nov. 22 from his office. Among the provisions Weld is considering are: visitation for domestic partners of state hospital patients and prison inmates and bereavement leave for domestic partners of state employees.

The executive order would also initiate a study of the feasibility of providing health care coverage to domestic partners of state employees. If Weld issues the order,

Massachusetts will be the only state with such state-level protections.

The governor's Advisory Committee for Women's Issues responded favorably to the proposal, prepared by the Subcommittee on Working Women's Issues, according to Rosemary Dunn Dalton, the only open lesbian on the committee.

The Greater Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance, of which Dalton is a board member, will submit a legal brief outlining the legal aspects of the proposal. Weld has not indicated when he will make a decision about the order.

—Dawn Schmitz

Old Glory condoms denied patent

PROVINCETOWN, Mass.—Calling condoms "immoral or scandalous matter," the U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office denied trademark protection to Old Glory Condom Corporation for its name and stars-and-stripes logo. The safer sex/AIDS activist company, which utilizes the image of an unfurled condom imprinted with an American flag-inspired design, will appeal the decision by the Trademark Office by the end of November.

"It is ironic that at a time when 'Long Dong Silver' is discussed on prime time television and the country is further alerted to the AIDS crisis by Magic Johnson, the government is holding this opinion on condoms," Old Glory president Jay Critchley told *GCN*. "I think they [the government] are the ones that are 'immoral' and 'scandalous.'"

In a letter notifying Critchley of its decision, the Trademark Office chastised Old Glory for using a "sacrosant symbol (the flag image) to promote items associated with sex...bringing contempt to this reference." While trademark protection of a U.S. flag motif has been granted to Gillette and other companies to promote sales of razor blades, furniture and clothing, the Trademark officials said granting Old Glory such rights would "likely give offense to conscience or moral feelings or shock the sense of decency or propriety in a substantial composite of the general public."

"This ruling is a crime," said Critchley, who has enlisted the assistance of AIDS service organizations, gay rights groups and congressional represenatives to challenge the ruling.

—Jacob Smith Yang

Surgeon General confers with ACT UP

WASHINGTON—Surgeon General Antonia Novella met with members of the Capitol chapter of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP/DC) Nov. 14 to discuss the group's concerns about the lack of federal AIDS leadership and the need to step up the government's response to the AIDS pandemic.

"We are both surprised and pleased with Dr. Novello's willingness to meet with us," said Robert Warnock of ACT UP/DC, "but, more importantly, with her willingness to advocate [for] our ideas for stronger AIDS leadership in the federal government."

At the meeting, Novello repeated an earlier statement she had made before. "If I were HIV positive, I would be an activist such as you are." Novello condemned the notion that there are "innocent" and "guilty" victims of the AIDS crisis and pledged to convince the public that AIDS is everyone's problem. She cited alarming statistics suggesting that 63 percent of sexually active youth in the U.S. fail to use condoms.

ACT UP representatives specifically asked Novello to meet with President George Bush and Vice President Dan Quayle to discuss suggestions made in the 1991 report of the National Commission on AIDS. They also pressed Novello to suggest that Bush establish a cabinet position of Secretary of AIDS/HIV, which ACT UP chapters around the country called for when they protested at Bush's summer home Sept. 1. The purpose of such a position would be to oversee all aspects of government AIDS programs, weeding out duplicative or wasteful programs in favor of those that would meet the needs of all people with HIV. ACT UP members stressed that "compassion" on the part of the Bush adminsitration was not enough.

They also requested that Novello continue the efforts of her predecessor, C. Everret Koop, by creating an updated version of the 1988 *Understanding AIDS* report. Novello reportedly told them that she had prepared a draft report on HIV prevention, including a frank discussion on means of transmission,

to be available to the public sometime after World AIDS Day, Dec. 2. She said that the report is targeted for broad distribution, although the specifics of the means and extent of circulation have yet to be finalized.

When ACT UP criticized Novello for not using her position to address the issue of AIDS in the media, she expressed frustration at the failure of the media to cover her frequent, sometimes controversial statements on AIDS. She cited a Sept. 6 speech to the National Conference on Substance Abuse, Prevention, Treatment, and HIV/AIDS, where she advised Latino families to put aside moral and religious beliefs in order to teach children about HIV prevention. Novello said media coverage does not reflect her estimate that 50 percent of her efforts are spent addressing AIDS issues.

ACT UP members praised Novello's suggestion that they meet with her every six weeks, in order to foster improved communications and follow up on what was brought up in their discussion.

—Jacob Smith Yang

Anti-gay Harvard rag causes stir

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—A student publication at Harvard University drew fire from gay and lesbian students when it devoted its entire 55-page October/November issue to "correct[ing] the many falsehoods of the pro-homosexuality ideology," showing "why homosexuality can objectively be thought a bad thing," and how "submitting to the homosexual 'lifestyle' can destroy individuals emotionally, physically, spiritually."

At a demonstration called by Harvard's Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Students' Association (BGLSA) Nov. 15, an estimated 200 students rallied to denounce the views put forth in *Peninsula*, a student-run conservative journal.

Two Harvard professors, Rev. Peter J. Gomes and Prof. Barbara Johnson, furthered activist's efforts by coming out at the rally. Gomes' announcement drew particular attention because of his position as college chaplain and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals.

"I think that most of the reactions [such as the rally] were appropriate," said Diane Hamer, co-chair of the Harvard Gay and Lesbian Caucus, a faculty, staff and alumni group. "I'm very pleased that Peter Gomes and Barbara Johnson came out," she added, "I think their show of strength was useful.... It's really important that the administration saw this."

Members of BGLSA blamed the anti-gay issue of *Peninsula* for anti-gay graffiti scrawled on a dormitory door the day the magazine appeared. They did not, however, call for censorship of the magazine, instead seizing on the opportunity it provided to galvanize the gay, lesbian and bisexual student population.

—Dawn Schmitz

Magic silent on African American gay and bi men

SAN FRANCISCO—The announcement Nov. 10 by basketball superstar Earvin "Magic" Johnson that he is HIV positive—and his subsequent efforts at safe-sex education—were hailed by Reggie Williams of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of the National Association of Black and White Men Together in a statement issued Nov. 14.

However, alluding to Johnson's silence on issues of AIDS as they effect gay men, Williams wrote that Johnson's "announcement will hurt us and our efforts if we allow people to marginalize gay and bisexual men in the African American community.... Gay and bisexual men are the hardest-hit segment of African Americans."

Williams called for "breaking down the veil of denial covering HIV and sexuality—the full spectrum of sexuality—in the Black community."

—Dawn Schmitz

Nigerian gay group goes public

LAGOS, Nigeria—Nigeria's first gay male organization, the "Gentlemen Alliance," applied for membership to the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), Nov. 18.

"We are very happy about this news from Nigeria," said ILGA Information Secretary Micha Ramakers. "There still are very few lesbian and gay organizations in Africa, but lesbians and gay men in this part of the world are getting organized now."

The Gentlemen Alliance formed as a

nationwide group in 1989 to combat discrimination against gay men, eliminate prejudice and promote AIDS awareness and favorable government health policies. Last November, the group planned Nigeria's first gay conference; plans for a second are currently being made. The Alliance is also looking towards planning a regional African forum of lesbian and gay organizations. Most recently, the members succeeded for the first time in getting an open letter protesting biased news coverage about lesbians and gay men published in a local newspaper.

Male homosexuality still carries strong religious and social taboos in Nigeria. Gay male sexual behavior is considered a crime by authorities, carrying sentences of up to 14 years' imprisonment.

According to ILGA, a lesbian organization for Nigeria is currently being developed.

—Jacob Smith Yang

Peep show booths okay

CAMDEN, N.J.—A superior court judge ruled Nov. 15 that an adult bookstore may keep its private peep show booths, despite the local government's complaints that the booths facilitate the spread of HIV.

According to the *Bay Area Reporter*, the borough of Stratford claims that customers of Cupid's Corner masturbate in the store's coin-operated booths, presenting a health hazard in regard to HIV transmission.

During a two-hour hearing, attorneys representing Cupid's Corner owners Carl Papa and Carvelle Distributors maintained that there is no scientific evidence that HIV can be spread through masturbation.

"AIDS hysteria is not a reason to revoke constitutional rights," said Judge Theodore Davis, ruling in favor of the bookstore's owners. Cupid's Corner had operated in Stratford for 17 years, when borough officials revoked its license last January.

Borough attorneys say they will appeal the decision, seeking evidence from out-of-state cases where private screening booths have been ruled to pose health and safety risks. Reportedly, borough residents are upset because they claim to have found syringes, condoms and pages torn from pornographic magazines outside the store.

—Jacob Smith Yang

Argentinian group targets President

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina—With international support, a gay and lesbian rights group in Argentina called upon President Carlos Menem to grant it official recognition Nov. 15. Homophobia and gay bashing are rampant in Argentina, according to the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA).

ILGA, together with the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force (NGLTF), handed Menem a statement during a visit by him to Washington, reading, "Wherever the President goes we will be there to remind both him and his hosts that by not taking immediate action, they are condoning death and dishonor with their silence and inaction."

CHA has taken their fight for legal status to Argentina's Supreme Court. According to ILGA, CHA cannot open a bank account, rent a building, use the media or appear in a public platform unless it is granted legal status.

—Dawn Schmitz

For The Activist In You

- National
 - Protest War Toys, Nov. 29 & Nov. 30. Annual protest. Info: (212) 228-0450.
 - Dec. 1 is World AIDS Day, a Day without Art.
- Local
 - World AIDS Day ACT UP procession up Newbury and Boylston Streets, Dec. 1. Meet 1 p.m. Trinity Church, Copley Place. Info: 266-8038;
 - World AIDS Day symposium on AIDS in U.S. Minority Communities at Harvard University, Dec. 2, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Info: Sara (617) 495-0478.
 - New England organizing meeting "to inform and energize New England activists" for the 1993 National March on Washington for Lesbian & Gay Civil Rights. Four regional representatives will be chosen for the National Steering Committee. Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston. Info: Derek Livingston (401) 831-5522.

Got activist news? Call (617) 426-4469; fax (617) 426-2723.

—Carrie Wofford

The criminalization of sex

Laws around the country bring mandatory testing and jail to HIV positive people who knowingly practice unsafe sex

By Jacob Smith Yang

LOS ANGELES—A woman working as a prostitute who was subjected to a court-ordered HIV test was convicted Oct. 17 under a California law that proscribes stiffer prostitution penalties for prostitutes who know they are HIV positive.

Patricia Sweeting is the first woman and the third person to be convicted under the 1988 statute, which raises the misdemeanor charge of prostitution to a felony when the alleged prostitute is shown to have known she was HIV positive. (See *GCN*, Vol. 18, No. 6)

Legal and activist battles to combat such laws are currently underway in California, Illinois and other states. Currently 24 states have laws that specifically criminalize knowingly exposing and/or transmitting HIV to others. AIDS activists have argued that such laws are misleading and ineffective ways to prevent HIV transmission.

"These laws apply to a very small number of cases where people knowingly or maliciously transmit HIV to another person," Evan Wolfson of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund told *GCN*. "Enacting them is the easiest thing [state] governments can do in order to look like they are doing something about AIDS, without spending money or addressing the real, hard issues of HIV transmission," he said.

Ruth Harlow of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) National AIDS Project told *GCN* that prostitutes have been targeted in a number of states because they are a vulnerable population, easy for authorities to prosecute and blame somehow for the spread of HIV.

Mandatory HIV testing

Los Angeles' Sweeting was first arrested for prostitution in December 1990.

Following a court-ordered HIV test, she was told she was HIV positive. Whether or not she was counseled about safer sex techniques, or to what degree, is unclear. She was arrested again Aug. 13 after soliciting an undercover police officer on Hollywood Boulevard.

Sweeting pled guilty to the increased felony charge of prostitution Aug. 29. A superior court judge suspended her sentence and ordered her to serve 270 days in a residential treatment facility, citing her willingness to cooperate and her need for education and counseling, presumably about HIV transmission and safer sex techniques.

A 1988 Illinois statute, like California's, mandates HIV testing of all people prosecuted for "sexually-related offenses." Rather than laying down increased penalties, Illinois' law allows the presiding judge to disclose the results of an accused person's HIV status to the public and the media, if she or he believes the person is a public health threat.

John Hammell, of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Illinois, an attorney who is working on several cases challenging the Illinois law, argues that mandatory HIV-testing and result disclosure by courts violates a person's constitutional right to privacy. While a lower court concurred with the ACLU, judging the law to be unconstitutional, the case was appealed by state prosecutors and taken to the Illinois Supreme Court, where arguments were heard last February. Currently, the ACLU of Illinois is waiting for the state's high court to hand down a decision. "I don't know why it is taking so long," said Hammell.

Is exposing others a crime?

While AIDS activists stress that criminal-

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Women with AIDS excluded from new CDC AIDS definition

CDC announcement Nov. 15 reneges on promise to include women and IV drug users

By Jennifer Wofford

ATLANTA—On November 15, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (which tracks AIDS and other diseases) proposed a revision of its definition of AIDS. The original definition dates back to 1987, but the new proposal presents the "revised classification system for HIV infection and expanded AIDS surveillance case definition for adolescents and adults."

The revised definition of AIDS has been met with criticism by community groups, AIDS activists and others who were expecting the new CDC draft to propose the inclusion of opportunistic infections (AIDS-related illnesses) specific to women and IV drug users.

AIDS activists, along with the American Medical Association, epidemiologists, community groups, lawyers and others have been calling for the CDC definition to include the infections commonly seen in women and injection drug users; and for changes in the reliance on CD4 cell counts (also referred to as T-cell counts).

Women, whose bodies are biologically different from men's, predominantly suffer gynecological infections, such as cervical cancer, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, and persistent, unresponsive vaginal yeast infection (aka, thrush, candidiasis), when their immune systems break down.

Immune-compromised IV drug users, who are often poor and have little access to health care, tend to develop pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) and bacterial pneumonia, both of which are excluded from the CDC definition of AIDS.

The problem

The CDC's official ("surveillance") definition of AIDS is important because it is used by other government agencies to determine criteria for government drug trials, which often offer the only access to AIDS treatments; and to determine the criteria for federal and state disability benefits (SSI, SSD, General Relief and Medicaid).

Currently, an individual is only diagnosed as having AIDS after developing one or more of the 20-or so opportunistic infections listed by the CDC. These 20 illnesses (among

them, Kaposi's Sarcoma, pneumocystis carinii pneumonia) are based on the early cases of AIDS who were almost all white men, many of whom had a history of good health care.

This means that the infections common in women and injection drug users are excluded from the official definition of AIDS; the official tallies of AIDS cases for women and IV drug users remain inaccurately low; and women and people of color are under-diagnosed and die without treatment. In fact, the CDC itself has acknowledged that 48 percent of the women who die from HIV infections never meet the official definition of AIDS.

Women with AIDS remain invisible

Following three national demonstrations in protest of the CDC's restrictive definition over the past year, word had leaked out from the CDC in August that infections specific to women and IV drug users would be included in this November 15 revision.

In the revision, the CDC has instead listed women's and IV drug users' infections in its "classification" category, for people who are less sick than those with official "AIDS." The CDC "classification" system used to be known as ARC (AIDS Related Complex).

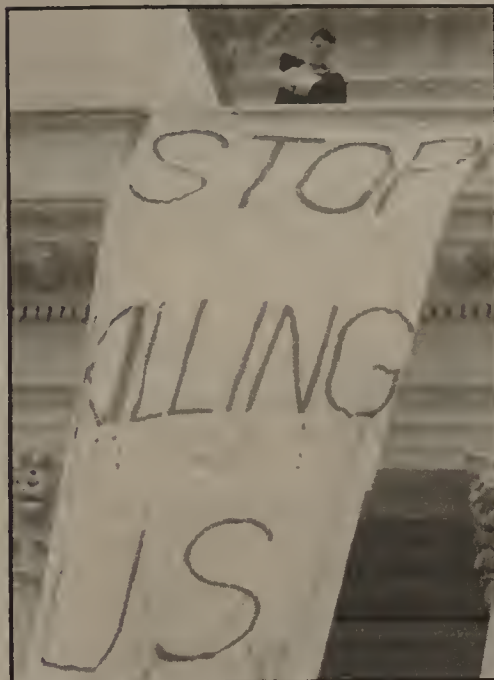
The opportunistic infections common in women that the CDC added to its classification definition are Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, recurrent unresponsive vaginal candidiasis, and cervical dysplasia and carcinoma (cancer). Bacterial endocarditis—common among IV drug users—and listeriosis were also added in the revision.

Linda Meredith, who co-authored a critique of the CDC's new classification system and who is a member of ACT UP's National Women's Caucus said, "The CDC revision means nothing, nothing, nothing in terms of numbers [of CDC recognized AIDS cases], epidemiology or tracking of the disease.... The CDC indicated that the reason they don't want to include the [opportunistic infections] specific to women and IV drug users is because it's too 'cumbersome.' That's inexcusable."

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Government lip service to women with AIDS?

Activists say inclusion of women in clinical trials is overstated; information lacking on woman-to-woman transmission



PETER ERBLAND

Keri Duran, one of an increasing number of women activists with AIDS, atop the Mass. State House this summer

By Dawn Schmitz and Carrie Wofford

BOSTON—After years of pressure from AIDS activist groups, the government claims to be including women in AIDS clinical trials. For the first time, there is a committee on women at the AIDS research branch of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) a branch of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

But many activists and AIDS practitioners call NIAID's changes "lip-service." They point to the lack of research on women and to the government's ignorance on the prevalence of woman-to-woman transmission of HIV.

Recently, women have started to be included in AIDS clinical trials, although they now represent only seven percent of participants in all government studies conducted by the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG). People with AIDS want to be included in the government's clinical trials because inclusion brings access to the health care and experimental treatments only available through government trials, and it also brings scientific information on AIDS in women.

Exclusion from research

Women are still severely under-represented in clinical trials. In two major national studies, women have been entirely ignored or barely included. In the Centers for Disease Control's ongoing Multi-center AIDS Cohort Study, which was designed to track the natural history, or progression of AIDS in people, no women are included, while few are men of color. This is despite the fact that many men with AIDS are Latino or African American, and despite the fact that by the government's restrictive count, at least 10 percent of AIDS cases are among women.

In the government's Spectrum of Disease Study, designed to track which illnesses, or opportunistic infections HIV infected people get, only seven percent of the participants are women, according to ACT UP members and to Rochelle Rollins of Boston's Multicultural AIDS Coalition, who spoke at a forum on STDs and HIV in Women held Nov. 25 at Fenway Community Health Center.

"It's lip-service by NIAID that their big push is to include women and people of color," asserted Linda Meredith, a member of the women's caucus of ACT UP/New York. The problem, Meredith and others assert, is that most government-sponsored studies continue to exclude women of child-bearing potential, and are limited to people who meet the CDC's definition of AIDS. The CDC itself reported last winter that 48 percent of women who die from AIDS do not meet the CDC's definition of AIDS (see related story, page 3).

"As long as they use the exclusion criteria and CDC-defined AIDS, they're never going to be able to include [women and people of color] and their research is going to [remain] incorrect," Meredith said. Although NIAID claims to not be limited to the CDC's restrictive definition of AIDS, NIAID has never conducted a single clinical trial for either the treatment or prophylaxis of an opportunistic infection that is not in the CDC's list.

The exclusion criteria for women focus on pregnancy. Women are asked to practice birth

control, which is defined and monitored by the researchers. For instance, in a current non-governmental study on TAT inhibitors (an indicator of the progression of AIDS) conducted by Hoffman-LaRoche pharmaceutical company at Johns Hopkins University, a woman—whose doctor recommended her for the study because she is intolerant to AZT—was told she could only participate if she was surgically sterilized. "There is an underlying level of mistrust" of women by researchers, Meredith claims.

The fact that women with AIDS tend to be in economically-disadvantaged groups (roughly 58 percent of HIV-infected women are African American) tends to shut them out of clinical trials because many do not have doctors who refer them to trials, according to Lee Swislow, an RN and coordinator of AIDS programs at Cambridge Hospital in Cambridge, Mass. More than 50 percent of women diagnosed with CDC-defined AIDS also have a history of IV drug use, she said.

Despite women's inclusion in clinical trials, the trials themselves haven't gone beyond a male model, according to many activists. Keri Duran, a woman with AIDS who is a member of ACT UP/Boston, told *GCN* that in a clinical trial in which she participated, changes in her gynecological symptoms were ignored by the researchers. While taking experimental drugs designed to control thrush—or candidiasis of the throat—her recurrent vaginal candidiasis cleared up. However, she said, the researchers involved with the study did not document these results. Swislow confirmed that researchers rarely document gynecological symptoms of AIDS/HIV in clinical trials.

No clinical trial to date, with the exception of a new controversial trial, 076, has included a gynecological exam in the routine monitoring of patients' health.

Women as "vectors of transmission"

Swislow said that of several thousand articles about AIDS written in medical journals this year, she found only four that specifically focused on medical issues related to how HIV and AIDS affects women. Noting that activists have been calling for studies to be done for a long time, Swislow said, "Unfortunately, sometimes research follows practice."

The government has yet to conduct a single study that would look at how women are affected by AIDS, as opposed to how women transmit HIV to fetuses or to men. Swislow pointed to several articles in which women were treated as "vectors of transmission" or transmitters of the virus, through prostitution (even though women are ten times more likely to be infected by a man than the other way around, according to the director of the NIH, Anthony Fauci) or childbirth.

In response to the government's unwillingness to identify women-specific opportunistic infections, treatments, and natural history, the National Women's Caucus of ACT UP wrote and distributed a "Research and Treatment Agenda for HIV and Women" last spring. It has been praised by government and private researchers.

The first ACTG study to focus on women is typical of the treatment of women as "vectors," activists claim. In that trial, 076, pregnant women are given large doses of AZT in order to test its ability to interrupt transmission to fetuses. The highly controversial trial—rejected by the Food and Drug Administration as unethical in its first protocol form—has been widely criticized by activists and researchers. Many activists fear the AZT will increase cervical cancer rates among the participants (based on pre-clinical studies in female mice), and say the study ignores a European study released last spring that showed that prenatal health care reduced the percentage of babies born HIV positive to 15 percent. Currently, an average of 30 percent of babies born to HIV-positive mothers are HIV positive.

Activists learned that the government recently moved 076 to the pediatric units of research sites (which lack community oversight) after the Community Advisory Boards of the adult units voted against 076. "That's slimy stuff," Meredith asserts. Such is the case at New York's Mt. Sinai Hospital and in Worcester, Mass., where 076 is currently enrolling women. 076 is scheduled to begin at the ACTG's Boston site (Harvard

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GCN JOBS

Business Manager

Available immediately. Responsible for financial management using computerized accounting system, for accounts payable and receivable, staff payroll and generating regular financial reports. Perform general office management tasks. Develop and maintain bookstore sales and bookstore accounts. Negotiate and maintain longterm exchange advertisement contracts. Act as one of two staff liaisons to the Board of Directors. This position will work closely with the development coordinator on long-range financial planning and developing annual budgets.

Qualifications: Strong administrative and financial skills and experience. Experience with non-profit management or bookkeeping preferred. Strong interpersonal and group meeting skills.

National Reporter/ Circulation Co-coordinator

Available in December. Research, investigate and write news stories with a national scope. May include some analytical feature writing as well. Share responsibilities with other staff writer for coordinating weekly mailing of paper and processing subscriptions.

Qualifications: Strong writing skills and ability to write several stories under weekly deadline pressure. Knowledge of national/local lesbian and gay community and issues helpful. Strong organizational and record-keeping skills as well as knowledge of data entry and/or computers also helpful.

Deadline for application: Dec. 8, 1991

GCN Positions All GCN positions require commitments to lesbian/gay liberation, feminism, anti-racism, an awareness of class issues, and collective decision-making.

Salary/Benefits: All positions pay \$230/week and include health/life insurance through Harvard Community Health Plan, dental allowance, sick leave, and four weeks paid vacation. GCN offers staff members responsibility for their own jobs, with flexibility and ample room for innovation.

Please send resume and cover letter to: GCN Job Search Committee, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116.

Lastly, I want to point out that the wonderful National Coming Out Day events that Liz Galst observed at Cambridge Rindge and Latin did not spring from barren soil. It was the hard work of a handful of gay/lesbian teachers and our allies who over the course of nearly ten years came out, challenged homophobia, planned and led workshops, supported gay kids, sensitized and made demands of administrators, and worked for the election of progressive politicians that created the climate for the "fantasy" in Cambridge. We accept a good piece of the credit and we concede that the work is hardly over, either in Cambridge or in other cities and towns who want our help in making such things happen there.

Sincerely,
Arthur Lipkin
Cambridge, Mass.

Educating fellow inmates

Dear GCN:

Allow me to introduce myself, but only for a moment, for those of you who aren't familiar with me.

My name is Raymond J. Smith, an inmate serving time for the State of New York Correctional Services. However, I am also one of the few prisoner activists within the system. I ran an HIV/AIDS Education program at Fishkill Correctional Facility for a year however now I have been transferred to another prison, and wish to once more initiate another another HIV/AIDS program for inmates.

As I am sure you are all aware, either from my prior correspondence with you, or from personal knowledge, the prison setting is of extreme value for the AIDS educator. In these places, especially in New York State, the numbers of HIV-positive people are astounding. In New York alone, 43 percent of PWAs reside. Thus, HIV/AIDS in the N.Y.S. correction setting is of equal proportions.

Educating the incarcerated has fantastic value, as one day these men and women will once more be released into society. If they are not educated on HIV transmission and contraction, this pandemic can only escalate. The prisoner with HIV needs to be advised of his/her condition, future, the facts. I work for that goal; however, without help from you, my friends, such can not be accomplished.

I am in desperate need of obtaining literature on HIV/AIDS, to once more implement a program for education. In my prior residence of incarceration, I managed with your help, to organize an HIV/AIDS library which grew to house 600 pieces of literature. I have greater plans for this prison.

Imperative it is, that I receive books, magazine articles, reports, statistics, essays, medical journals and every other piece of literature on the epidemic. Remember, you made my first dream become a reality, and due to your assistance as a community as a whole, hundreds of inmates were educated about HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and every fact about "at risk" behavior. With this help, we can conquer this disease, but only through prevention.

Please, help me in my struggles to stop the spread of the AIDS virus, send me your literature today. Books, pamphlets and any other literature you can afford to share with those who are ignorant to our cause.

I would also ask that you place me on your continuous mailing list, so that my library will never become outdated. I sincerely thank you all.

Yours in the fight against AIDS misinformation,

Raymond J. Smith, #89A5235
Prisoner activist
Mid-Orange Corr. Facility
900 Kings Highway
Warwick, NY 10990

Plea for assistance

Dear GCN:

In a sincere and honest effort for a plea for assistance from our gay brothers and sisters outside the Mississippi Delta, respectfully we need all information to prepare our small group for a legal battle for a member who is being emotionally and psychologically abused by his family.

We do not have any gay legal, medical or supportive gay measures in our area. We have a desperate situation where the mother who has legal guardianship over her 23 year old son who has a definite gay history will not in any form let him have any contact with the true life that he wants to live. After three months of trying to communicate with the mother in a respectful manner, she made

sure that we can not correspond with him. The authorities here wish to ignore or simply do not understand or care.

The mother do know that her son does love and respect his gay family and she feels threaten by this and has her son restricted to four walls at her house. Willie James had a nervous breakdown three years ago from her trying to "correct" his sexual preference problem and did inform his heterosexual psychiatrist on how he feels instead of letting him attend sessions along to express his true emotions.

If you ever had to deal with a harsh homophobia where it becomes abusive, please answer in any form to our call. We need your phone calls, cards, letters, names/adresses of gay doctors, psychiatrists, persons of the cloth, social workers, lawyers, social security personnel and good old gay family just to lend an ear. We are putting pressure on the mother plus letting Willie James know his gay family is still in his corner by giving continuous dedication to him to our local radio station.

You can contact me at the below number. We thank you for your listening ear and your supportive measures. If you thought our gay sisters and brothers in China and Brazil had problems, come to the Mississippi Delta where homophobia and gay bashing live and is accepted as norm. May God bless you in all your endeavors until we correspond with you.

In gay and lesbian unity and love,
Charles E. Bendford
714 Avenue I
Greenwood, MS 38930
(601) 455-3090

Locked up in the box

Dear GCN:

I'm an inmate here in Altona Correctional Facility. I've been here now about one year. Ever since I been here I been constantly verbally harassed and intimidated.

I am now locked up in the box because I was told to move from a bottom bed to a top. I asked to talk to a sergeant here to find out why, and he couldn't tell me why. I was asked to be put into P.C. but they put me right back into population. After going back into population I got locked back up again for a sex act, which I got 90 days loss of everything and three months loss of good time.

Why? Because I'm gay and I'm trying to do the right thing since I've been here. I wrote the superintendent here telling him about my problem, but nothing seem to help. I also wrote the Commissioner, and he tell me to write the superintendent there. I been trying to get a transfer out of this place to another, and they tell me that they are not doing transfer anymore. Now I would like to know if there is someone I can write about this harassment. Better yet if there is a way I can get out of this place. I feel the longer I be here, these problems are not going to stop. I want to thank you for understanding where I am coming from. I also will appreciate any help that you can give me. I await any answer that you may have for me. I thank you for your time in this matter.

Yours truly,
Pierre Reynolds, #90T3559
PO Box 125 Altona, NY 12910

GCN EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

The "Community Voices" and "Speaking Out" sections in GCN represent part of our efforts to provide a true forum for the community. We encourage you to send your ideas, feelings and comments to us, and to respond to ideas expressed within our pages. We welcome all contributions except personal attacks.

Letters and "Speaking Out" contributions that have appeared in other publications previously are printed only as space allows. GCN reserves the right to edit letters and "Speaking Out" contributions for length and clarity, in consultation with the author. Please include your name, address, and daytime phone number with your letter or article so that we can contact you to verify edits.

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Gay Community News is produced by a collective dedicated to providing coverage of events and news in the interest of gay and lesbian liberation. The collective consists of a paid staff of ten, a general membership of volunteers, and a board of directors elected by the membership.

Opinions reflected in "editorials" represent the views of the paid staff collective. Signed letters and columns represent the views and opinions of the authors only. We encourage all readers to send us comments, criticism, and information, and to volunteer and become members.

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Postmaster: Send address changes to: Gay Community News, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116.

Surprised

Dear GCN:

I was surprised to read in your election coverage that there are "an estimated 25 municipalities nationwide to grant protections based on sexual orientation," when the actual number is about 100 (in addition, of course, to the four state laws and the ten state executive orders). But then your article did not indicate who made this "estimate."

Yours,
Arthur S. Leonard
Professor of Law
New York Law School
New York, N.Y.

Recognizing lesbian and gay youth

Dear GCN:

Your front-page articles "Support for the queer teacher" and "High school students come out" (Vol. 19, No. 18) were fantastic. I'm sure they were literally the stuff of fantasy for many of your readers who had never dreamed that such liberating events could happen in high schools in this country.

You are to be commended especially for taking an interest in the subjects of kids and schools. Those of us who are working on the issues of gay/lesbian teachers and students, schoolbased anti-homophobia programs, and gay/lesbian curricula have often felt ignored by the larger community.

However, articles like yours, the recent formation of a state-wide committee on gay/lesbian/bisexual youth issues and the introduction of the "gay youth suicide bill" in the state legislature signal a change. Ironically, it may be our community who will convince the greater public that young people do have sexualities, a fact that has been denied by a homophobic culture (with the exception of exploitative marketers). Gay and lesbian educators and youth workers are helping to heal the psychic and physical harm that has been done to all youth as a result of this peculiar American ignorance.

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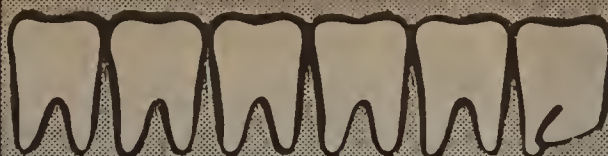
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A GREAT NEED

JUDY GREENSPAN REFLECTS ON THE NEEDS OF PRISONERS WITH AIDS AND WHAT OTHER ACTIVISTS CAN DO TO HELP

BY REBECCA LAVINE

Rebbecca Lavine: How did you become involved in prisoner advocacy work? What led you in that direction?

Judy Greenspan: Well, I've been involved with prisoner rights and prisoner advocacy for many years through some of the political work that I've done. I was the logistics coordinator for the March on Washington and when that job ended, I looked around and found that the position was open at the Prison Project. It seemed a very natural transition because I was very concerned about prisoners' rights and the rights of people with AIDS. That was in March of '88.

Had there been a Prisoner Project AIDS Coordinator position before that, or did you basically create that position?

Well, there was a project of one person and when I came on, it expanded. It became the attorney and the information person.

How many people are involved at the Project now?

Two! (laughs)

Well, it's an expansion of 50 percent. (laughter)

I think the purpose of the Project has never been that we could handle all the problems and all the real issues that prisoners with AIDS face. But we try to get help from other people in other locations around the country, which I think is something that you try to do, at the GCN Prisoner Project.

It's about education.

That's right.

So, looking back on it, what do you feel has been meaningful to you while working at the ACLU?

The big problems for people who work with prisoner rights issues and try to work on behalf of prisoners are that the obstacles facing prisoners are so insurmountable and the prisoners themselves are in such need of advocacy. I remember when I first took the job, Mike Reigle [founder of GCN's Prisoner Project] was in town and we sat down at Dupont Circle. Mike looked at me and said, "Well, there's you and me." (laughs) And then he rattled off about four or five people on one hand who were concerned about prisoners with AIDS in this country. He was very depressed. I was not quite depressed yet but I sort of caught the drift that indeed there was a great need for other people to become involved.

If I've done anything in the Project, I've tried to motivate other people in other cities in whatever capacities they're working to get involved. First of all, to talk to each other, because I see the work and support of prisoners with AIDS as the formation of an important coalition. If we organize our coalition as broadly as possible, then we can bring in prisoners, we can bring in attorneys and prisoner advocacy groups, we can bring in criminal justice agencies, we can bring in AIDS advocacy organizations, lesbian and gay organizations, women's organizations, as well as Black organizations and the Latino community.

So there's a real potential to organize a broad-based coalition in support of prisoners and that, in a very ambitious way, is what I've tried to do. I've tried to bring a level of activism to a job that otherwise tends to be the pushing papers, bureaucratic, writing-letters-type.

Can you give some concrete examples of how you've accomplished this?

Well, first of all, I don't think I've done it. Maybe I've helped link people up with the issues and I've helped people link up with groups. But what I've been most overjoyed about is to see the interest that ACT UP chapters around the country have shown about the issue of AIDS in prisons.

I guess it was May '89, that a very small group of people from ACT UP/Philadelphia showed up at the sentencing of Gregory Smith. All of us who went to the sentencing had been organized by Greg, he had called us all. (laughs) He had read my name and heard me on the radio, and knew that I was con-



PATTI MILLER

AFTER WORKING AS AN ORGANIZER FOR 1987'S MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS, JUDY GREENSPAN BECAME THE AIDS INFORMATION COORDINATOR FOR THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION'S PRISON PROJECT. SHE SERVED IN THIS CAPACITY FOR FOUR YEARS, RECENTLY LEAVING IN ORDER TO MOVE TO OAKLAND, CALIF. IN THE FOLLOWING INTERVIEW, JUDY TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK ABOUT ADVOCACY FOR PRISONERS WITH AIDS, THE REASONS WHY PRISONERS WITH AIDS MUST BECOME A MORE FOCUSED PART OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN AND AIDS ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS, AND WHAT INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS CAN DO TO SUPPORT THE LITERAL LIFE-AND-DEATH STRUGGLES OF PRISONERS.

cerned about the issue. He said, "Please get some people to my sentencing," and it was really from there that the "Justice for Gregory Smith Committee" was formed.

It brought in a whole number of different people, regardless of the way that appeal turned out, which was a conviction of 25 years for biting. I hope it's overturned. I think it signalled a beginning for both anger and activism in support of prisoners with HIV and AIDS, and it's gone beyond that.

People in LA, on their own, with the impetus of Mary Lucy, a woman who's a former prisoner, have been involved over the past year and a half in support of people with HIV and AIDS in California prisons. They face the situation of segregation and very little medical care.

Is it five states that segregate prisoners with HIV or AIDS?

Yup, there are now about five states that segregate everybody and then there are probably twice that many that segregate prisoners with AIDS. Talking about the activism is different than talking about what to change, because then you get more depressed.

We should talk a little bit about it though. What do you feel you've learned most from prisoners?

Well, mostly, the more I hear from prisoners the more I feel a sense of urgency about the need for people to get involved with pris-

oners issues. And I want to go back to that initial conversation with Mike. People who are doing prisoner advocacy work burn out so easily. It's partially because it's such a demanding job, it's not 9 to 5. Prisoners need 24-hour advocacy. But if a couple of organizations in each state would do some general advocacy on behalf of prisoners with AIDS and HIV, if more people were involved, it would take the pressure off the couple of us who are attempting to do it nationally, because I think it's impossible.

Prisoners have been so grateful for what I've done, and yes, it makes me feel good.

But at the same time it's a terrible feeling.

It makes me feel horrible! I feel like I haven't done much. It's just that nobody else is doing anything.

And prisoners are so marginalized.

They're so marginalized, and they're so used to having their letters thrown in the trash. Even getting a form letter back from the ACLU national prison project and a couple of pamphlets and the GCN list of national resources is like a treasure.

GCN gets so many letters every week saying, "Thank you for everything you do for prisoners." It makes you want to cry. I'm so glad that we're doing something

and that you're doing something—not to put down what we do or what you do—but it's not enough.

Right. It's the tip of the iceberg. And that's why, faced with the dilemma of being able to solve a million problems of individual prisoners or being able to sort of get up on the top of a hill and yell loudly about the issues affecting prisoners with AIDS, I tended to feel it was more useful to get up on a hill and yell: write articles in newspapers, participate in demonstrations, inspire others to organize demonstrations or meetings, or deal with ways to put it out there as a political issue. I think because prisoners themselves can't be out in the streets, then the rest of us need to be out in the streets.

I think, perhaps, one of the most significant things I was able to participate in was the National Commission on AIDS hearings on AIDS in prison issues. The speakers were all people who I had been working with and the report that was issued was wonderful. But, of course, now we're faced with what do we do with this report? You know George Bush isn't going to implement it! (laughs) But, you know, we need to implement it. We need to implement all the reports that have been issued, because they've issued some very good ones.

So, the idea is that people won't be able to ignore the issue if it is put in front of them and if they can be made to understand how it relates to the type of struggle they are involved in.

Related to their experience.

Right. So I think that in some ways I've been successful and to some extent, I feel like an abysmal failure. Because, you know, I get a lot of things in the mail, agendas for national conferences, this, that and the other thing. And still, the national gay and lesbian organizations refuse to tackle this issue. I have actually received the *least* support from the organized lesbian and gay community—not the grassroots—but the organized gay and lesbian community has refused to respond to this issue.

But that's not your failure, that indicts them.

Yeah, but it takes a lot of energy to bat your head up against the organizing committee of a particular conference and say, "Hey I want a workshop on lesbian and gay prisoners. Hey, I want a workshop on prisoners with AIDS." Sometimes I'm able to do it and sometimes I haven't been able to do it. And all the times that I haven't been able to do it, or haven't known to do it, you sort of wish, "Well, why don't they do it?" (laughs)

But it brings us back to the issue of one the most important ways in which people in the gay and lesbian community can show their solidarity—not only with people with AIDS but also show solidarity for people who are Black, and Latin and other people of color—they can build that bridge with people, many of whom are gay. I'm fairly amazed at the number of prisoners who I meet through the phone or writing who identify as being gay.

It definitely seems like it's more than 10 percent.

(laughter) Definitely. And I don't think it's all situational, either. There's just nothing there for them. It's much easier for me to put a prisoner in contact with an AIDS organization than it is for me to put them in contact with a lesbian and gay organization that's going to read their letter and send them something.

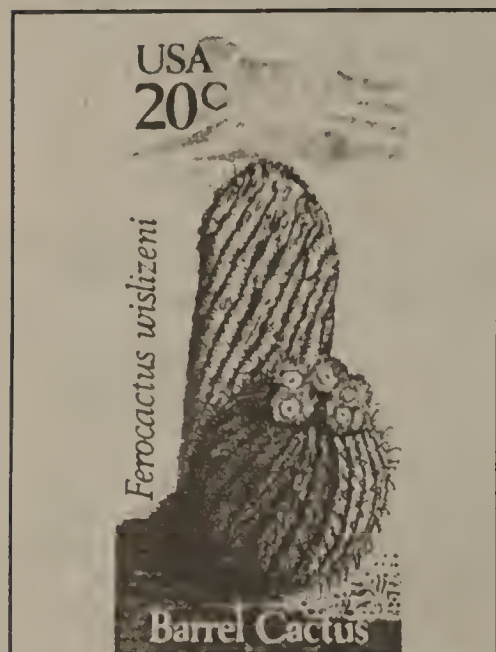
It's hard to think of any, in fact.

Yes, unfortunately. I think it's important for the lesbian and gay community to be involved with prisoner advocacy for so many reasons. First of all, I think it's so very important for the lesbian and gay community to be involved with fighting racism—and not just lip service to that issue—but very much making it a part of our fight for lesbian and gay rights. We don't want to make the same mistakes, I don't think, that the suffragists made when they got the vote at the expense of a coalition with the abolitionists. We need to forge a coalition with people of color, certainly with lesbian and gay people of color, who I know are much more concerned with prisoner issues, because they see the effect on their movement.

Continued on page 9

Who's the top?

A recent PBS special shows why you can't de-fag Cole Porter



By Rudy Grillo

The U.S. Postal Service does occasionally display a sense of humor, as when promising better service. Sometimes the humor is rather crass, as in the case of Cole Porter's 100th anniversary commemorative stamp, which shows Porter at a piano keyboard prominently displaying a *limp wrist*. (My favorite stamp is the one issued several years ago on which appeared two prickly cactus plants positioned so as to look like an erect cock and balls, festooned with blossoms; I like to think prankish Porter would like to too.)

The entertainment industry and the media have also paid well-deserved tributes to Porter via concerts, recordings, revivals, birthday salutes on the evening news, documentaries and TV specials such as the largely disappointing, homophobically tainted "Red Hot & Blue."

In the early part of a recent PBS documentary called *You're The Top: The Cole Porter Story*, critic/author Brendan Gill unexpectedly and matter of factly says, "Cole was of course homosexual. Linda," [Thomas, Porter's wife] "had no interest in sex because she'd had a very bad marriage" (maybe it was the other way around) "in which she found herself beaten up and really bloodied, continuously, by a [sic] young bridegroom. So she was delighted to marry this handsome and gifted young man," [Porter] "and to pre-side over his entourage."

At that point, I couldn't help wondering how many ignorant, homophobic and outing-phobic viewers recoiled in horror. But relief was on the way in the form of the pussyfooted Alexis Smith. While referring to Porter's 1946 film (alleged) biography, *Night and Day* (in which Smith played the role of Linda Thomas), she mentions there were "certain aspects of the story which at that time they could not do." Was "certain aspects" a euphemism for *gay*? Smith's misplaced politeness here is truly retrograde. "None of it is true," Porter said laughingly of the film. Smith calls it a fantasy. Some might call it a travesty to which Porter was a willing contributor. He was a vain but practical man. If a song didn't please his employer, he simply changed it or wrote another. When his true life story was deemed unacceptable for the silver screen, he helped invent another, which was in keeping with most Hollywood film biographies anyway.

Porter's goddaughter tells of his being snubbed at Yale because he was from the Midwest. (Sure, and storks are delivered by babies.) Furthermore, she says, his messy room was furnished with wicker furniture and his "salmon-colored tie" (a gay badge) didn't help. Those things "just weren't done" she says, with a look of disdain that is not clearly aimed. Wickerphobia, hmmm, what a revelation.

The absence of any mention of Porter's long and close friendship with internationally famous professional celebrity hostess and lesbian Elsa Maxwell as well as that with college chum, Maxwell pal and film and stage actor Monty Wooley is striking and significant. But it's not too puzzling in this stunted "documentary." What should have been left out are the too numerous versions of "Let's Do It," "You're The Top" and Ethel Merman, along with the soporific details of Porter's socially correct marriage of convenience to wealthy and somewhat enigmatic Linda, "a professional beauty."

They evidently shared a taste for high social status and the elegant luxuries, high life and freedoms afforded by wealth. Linda and Cole are portrayed as the ultimate sophisticates but the viewer is never told the cause for their separation or why they married.

We could deduce or speculate that their correct pairing (and his extraordinary talents)

was the key to opening many otherwise locked doors. In the all-too-real world where obvious nonconformists are shunned, stigmatized and sometimes battered and killed, divorced women and irrepressible queers were/are near or at the bottom of the social ladder. And so we might understand their seeming hypocritical "marriage." We know such arrangements continue to be formed today. One could also speculate that Linda also served as Cole's shield (or "beard") against his possibly being disinherited by his disapproving (of sissies) millionaire grandfather and doting mom, both of whom wanted him to be a lawyer.

While Brendan Gill's offhand mention of Porter being gay is a welcome surprise, it is not enough. Homosexuality was not incidental in his life; along with other things, it was his life. We don't live in a world where this matter is irrelevant, peripheral or trivial. It is indeed central to completing the picture and appreciating this man's story and his exceptional accomplishments in popular music. Instead we see/hear a lineup of irritatingly brief talking head bites, cheerfully cranking out fawning, patronizing and finally nauseating praise usually directed toward spoiled, precocious children and talented misfits.

Bobby Short describes Porter's world as "penthouse, chiffon and champagne." Photographer friend Jean Howard sums him up as "wicked and cute," while Linda Ronstadt's (yes, her) homespun analogy compares Porter's melodies to the unwinding of a thread off a spool. Such insight! So profound! So trite! Even the covert gay talking heads speak in cautious, safe cliches. Interspersed are the beloved but all-too-familiar TV and movie clips. There go Fred and Ginger! Was that Judy and Gene? Oh! Here comes Merman again! Is that Peter Pan in drag and stripping?

While there are references, delivered at jet speed, to young male beauties on his arm and tanned hunks around his Hollywood pool, not a word is said about the men in Porter's love and sex life, nor the lavender in his lyrics.

Many of us by now know of the "blue" lyrics to "Love For Sale," "My Heart Belongs To Daddy" and "In The Morning, No!" and the resulting ban from radio. We're told again anyway. Not mentioned is the gay lyric in "Farming," also banned, or the lesbian rhyme from "Can-Can," which has never been recorded.

Porter wrote most of his songs for a wide audience but his innate gay sensibility was so deftly woven into his work it came to be known as his style. It was a style many could love and some could read into. Songs such as "I'm A Gigolo," "Kate The Great," "I'm Unlucky At Gambling" and "Nobody's Chasing Me" are a few where his insinuating, clever weave can be found. His own recording of "The Physician" gives a witty and funny female-to-male lyric a delightful new layer of meaning.

Many of Porter's lyrics display a charming, playful irony, a sense of amused mischief and the insight of an outsider, a romantic observer. All that and more is cleverly and meticulously wedded to inventive music and rhythms, a unique blend of spritely intelligence and artful craftsmanship.

Anyone interested in an uncloseted account of Cole Porter's life should read *Cole Porter: A Biography* by Charles Schwartz (1979); and *Cole* (1971), a picture book with text by Kimball and Gill, is fascinating though closeted. *The Complete Lyrics of Cole Porter* (1984), edited by Robert Kimball is a real treasure.

Documentaries are supposed to be about facts. *You're The Top* (which, like many PBS specials pops up in frequent repeat broadcasts) is a shallow, pretentious and stale

Continued on page 11

THANK YOU

TO EVERYONE WHO MADE
GCN's NOVEMBER 22
AUCTION SUCH A SUCCESS

The "Autumn Frolic" fundraiser on Friday, Nov. 22, made history as GCN's most successful benefit event ever. The event drew a mixed crowd of long-time supporters and new faces for an evening of entertainment and live auction. Belle Linda Halpern opened the evening, followed by the auctioning of over 70 donated items. Comedian Jaffee Cohen put in a hilarious appearance, and Fenwick Smith and Martin Amlin closed the evening with a duet for flute and piano. Best of all, the gala raised \$6,000 for GCN, bringing us closer to our \$50,000 fundraising goal!

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OUR HOST STEVEN TIERNEY, AND OUR AUCTIONEERS KEVIN
CATHCART & HARRY COLLINGS FOR THEIR MANY HOURS OF
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THANKS ALSO TO OUR GUEST AUCTIONEERS: THE HAT
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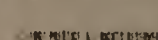
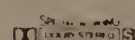
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Prisoners

Continued from page 7

We need to raise the issue of fighting racism which can only strengthen the gay and lesbian community. I think it's unfortunately the inability of the organized lesbian and gay community to look beyond that white, middle-class perspective. But I think we can change that. People can change, the community can change.

The problems that lesbian prisoners face, for example, are to some degree similar to what women faced in this country prior to there being a movement. You know, in the '50s, if you were caught having sex or kissing a woman—if they believed you were sexual enough—you would perhaps be victimized as the object of a violent attack. This type of thing is what is going on in prisons. I don't think that our movement can separate itself from the rights of lesbian and gay prisoners. I mean, certainly as we fight on the outside, that's going to influence what's going on in the prisons.

But the lesbians in prison and the people with AIDS in prison are from communities of color and they're from poorer communities. They are people who have been marginalized their entire lives. There's a very high proportion of prisoners who are I.V. drug users or people who are related to I.V. drug users. I feel like we need to expand our idea of what our community is and recognize they're part of it.

Lesbians in prison don't have access to lesbian and gay publications. They don't have access to books. They certainly can't get them from the prison library. They have some of the same needs as lesbians on the outside do, and their needs aren't being met at all. There are also a growing number of lesbians in prison who are out about being lesbian and that stand in and of itself is much stronger than being out on the outside. These women are in much greater danger.

Also, in terms of lesbians, if we really want to look at our herstory, then the dykes in prison are our foremothers, to a very large extent. They are the sisters who have survived on the streets, they are the butches of the '50s, and they may not see the connection, but I think there are ways we can reach out and support women inside. The thing that is very amazing that is happening not only to women but also to men in prison is, for example with all of the peer education and peer support, you have the phenomena of both women and men in prison who are HIV negative becoming AIDS educators.

They could be saying, "Well, what does AIDS have to do with me?" But instead they are saying, "That has a lot to do with me, this could be me. It's not me right now and I'm getting tired of watching my brothers and sisters dying right next to me because they don't get proper medical care, because no one's educating them so they can change their high risk behavior." I think these folks are becoming the heroes of the AIDS epidemic. They are joining with HIV positive people behind prison walls and forming these programs, which are generally started by independent prisoners without the permission of the prison authorities because they don't like them at all.

So they start out underground.

Some of them never surface. Some of them are always underground. The New York AIDS program started out underground, came aboveboard, had to go underground for a little while longer, and now is pretty much a public organization. But just the fact that these programs exist should be enough to inspire those of us on the outside who want to support them, because they can't survive without our support. They can limp along for a little while, but without our expertise, without our resources, without our voice, these programs won't exist.

Also, we have a lot to learn. I have been so impressed with the level of these programs, with the type of curricula, with the type of brochures that people have been producing. Many of them are much more aware than those of us on the outside. They feel they have to be.

Also the language that is used is clearer and more understandable than many of the brochures used on the outside. It's a different approach.

Many of us who were involved with the anti-war movement, or the civil rights movement, or the student movement of the '60s, participated in a lot of campaigns. We called them material aid campaigns. You know, you raised money you sent it to the Vietnamese; you raised money, and sent it down South to civil rights people who were doing voter registration, whatever. You know, people did this in the '30s and '40s, too, with the war against fascism in Spain.

Prisoners with AIDS also need material support. I think that all of us who are sending literature into prison are sending material

aid. It's not just AIDS education brochures but providing very valuable and needed material aid so that people can arm themselves—in a different way—but still arm themselves against the AIDS epidemic, and the epidemic of HIV. The psychological support [helps create] the positive attitude that's needed to survive prison.

I think that a lot of the brochures that are made on the outside are not good enough. It's not even the language, but most of the brochures that I see on the outside have to do with, "How do you prevent HIV? What do you do in your life to prevent HIV?" Well, the fact is that in a lot of the prisons, the same as in a lot of poor communities like New York City or Washington, D.C., a large part of the population is already positive. So what you need to say is (besides "Don't continue to re-infect yourself."), "You have to learn to live with HIV, and you can live with HIV, and maybe you can even survive your prison term." Without that, most prisoners who are HIV positive, without any education, without any support, feel that being HIV positive in prison is a death sentence. And it becomes that.

And it can be that.

I'm not saying that people on the outside can make a 100 percent difference. We can't open the prison gates. But we can, even in a small way, make a tremendous amount of difference in people's lives. [Outside supporters could help] through the establishment of buddy programs, AIDS service organizations doing some sort of pre-release counselling, support groups, AIDS education, even having people on the outside prisoners could call on a regular basis. Very small. Even sending in novels, these are very small things that people can do that won't strain your budget or your resources but still make a very big difference, and may even open them up to new ideas and people.

So, you're talking about people doing things like establishing buddy programs, writing to prisoners and sending in literature, and those types of things.

Yeah. I think buddy programs are actually one of the most important things for prisoners with AIDS, and I know it's impossible in a place like New York. But it's certainly not impossible in some place like Idaho, or Utah, or all of those places where I get these letters from prisoners who can't find anybody out there to help. I know that people are out there and they're probably reading GCN.

So we've talked a little about why we should be doing prisoner work, about the experience of prisoners, and some of the things that people can do as solidarity work. Can we talk a little about some of the rewards or reasons why people might want to do this type of work?

Prisoners are so grateful for the very little we do. They themselves are so inspired. I was able to go to Madison at the beginning of September and participate in the first Midwestern demo in support of prisoners with AIDS. (See GCN, Vol. 19, No. 9) It was very historic. And, you know, it wasn't very large, it wasn't anything to sneeze at: 150 people, but it wasn't like thousands of people in the streets. But at the same time as we were doing that, prisoners were organizing at the men's prisons at Wall Pond, and they were having their own set of demonstrations. And this wasn't anything planned, it was on the initiative of one of the prisoners, Roger Hillman, who's been doing a lot of work up there and getting a lot of flak from prison officials.

So we were able to coordinate, and the weekend ended with myself, Dan Savage (who is a member of ACT UP) and Roger Hillman all being on a radio talk show together, which was really exciting. Roger called in, it was great, it was an incredible experience to sort of coordinate all of this and it gave me probably the clearest vision that we're all in this movement together.

When I talk about supporting prisoners with AIDS I don't mean to talk about it in any social worker or patronizing way, like, "We need to help them." I think that they are an integral part of our movement. They want to do things. They will do things. They're going to be locked down, they're going to have their good time taken away, they're going to be censored, they're going to be segregated, they're going to be denied medical care, they're going to be punitively transferred from one prison to another for the lightest protest. We can do so much more on the outside and make so much more of a difference. And that's why I have the most tremendous amount of respect for the ACT UP groups that have decided to take on this issue, because I know these groups around the country are not large organizations, yet they do so much.

Continued on page 11

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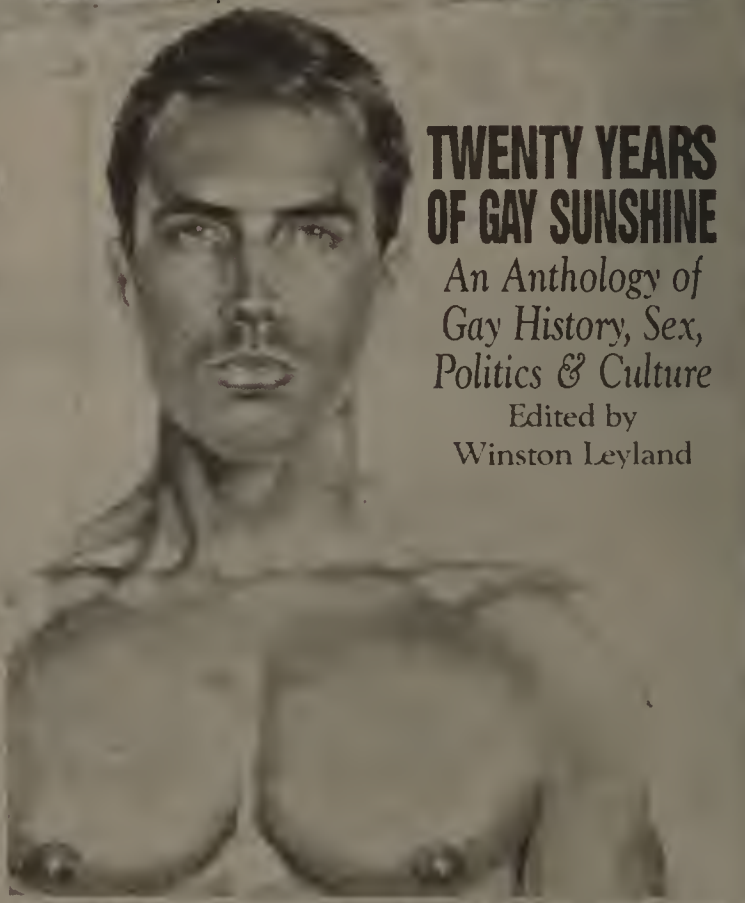
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Gay History, Sex,
Politics & Culture*
Edited by
Winston Leyland

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Prisoners

Continued from page 9

In a sense I think that supporting prisoners with AIDS and who are HIV positive can be rewarding because it is so needed, and a little bit goes a long way. The prisoners are incredibly supportive and inspired.

Also, I'm convinced that we can win some of these issues. For many of us who have been active in progressive movements in the past few years we have seen a lot of losses. Some of us are still totally depressed about the Persian Gulf fiasco and not being able to impact that, but I think we can impact, in a good way, the rights of prisoners with HIV and AIDS. I think it can have ramifications that will effect the outside world.

For example, one of the issues that prisons are very vulnerable on now is about medical parole and compassionate release. Medical care in prisons is abominable for everyone and most of the time they don't have to hold to the same type of community standard care. The Federal Bureau of Prisons has unlicensed physicians and a horrible reputation.

It's a horrific situation for all prisoners. So prisoners with AIDS get that much worse treatment and they are dying. Some of them are dying the way Donald Woods died, because guards are homophobic and AIDS-phobic [Donald Woods was suffocated with a towel placed in his mouth by guards. See GCN Vol. 19, No. 1]. Some are dying from neglect and some are dying from the evil policies of segregating prisoners who are very ill.

I think that condoms are very important, that has to be advocated as part of an overall comprehensive AIDS education prevention program. But I think that we could actually get medical release programs in some states without too much problem at all and make a difference in terms of releasing prisoners with AIDS and HIV back into their communities. People can work on issues like that, which are very vulnerable because of all the deaths, and see results. The prison system does not like to hear people yelling, "You're killing people with AIDS."

I think it's really heartening that more people want to be involved in the struggle of organizing support for prisoners with AIDS. I think that it's really important, however, that activists remember they need to be in touch with prisoners themselves in this process. It's very different than demanding that drugs be released, where you can stand outside the NEA, yell, do whatever you want. Because this movement is about prisoners, prisoners need to play an active role, which will take effort on the part of activists.

An example is when activists in New York were angry about condom distribution and they wanted to throw condoms over the gates of a prison. That's a time when they should really be establishing contact with prisoners, and be guided by the prisoners' ideas.

One of the most important things in working in support of prisoners with HIV/AIDS is recognizing and involving prisoners, recognizing that they are AIDS activists and educators themselves. I believe they are part of a movement that is similar to the prisoner movement of the '60s—perhaps not that large, but that widespread. The role for those of us on the outside is not to speak for that movement but to allow that movement to be heard.

Judy Greenspan wants prisoners reading this to know that even though she has left the ACLU, she is not leaving the movement. She will still be involved and wants people to continue to use the ACLU Prison Project as well as to keep in touch with her. She can be written at: 6152 Dover St., Oakland, CA 94609.

Struggle

Continued from page 1

had played the major roles and had set the political and journalistic agendas. For the first time, lesbians held such positions as news editor, features editor and managing editor, and the pages of GCN reflected this infusion of new perspectives. There were serious articles about abortion rights, about radical lesbian Susan Saxe's trial and women's music. Some men stormed off, even as some women decried the residual sexism and the single-issue focus held by some of the men.

Political struggle didn't always break down along gender lines, though. Sex radical lesbians clashed with anti-pornography advocates, and disagreements over tactics was big for a while. Supporters of in-the-street, in-your-face demonstrations argued with boosters of behind-the-scenes, quiet lobbying. When Anita Bryant was scheduled to appear in Boston in the late 1970s, GCN put out a special issue supporting the demonstration. Rival advertisements were placed in the paper—one advocating confrontation, the

other promoting a just-ignore-her line. Each ad printed the names of its supporters. Reductionists could now clearly identify what came to be known as the "good gays" and the "bad gays."

Around this time, the GCN membership (the larger collective of staff, board members and active volunteers who make major policy decisions) voted to expand the paper's focus to include coverage of issues beyond Boston. This national orientation has allowed GCN's subscriber base to grow to the point where two-thirds of our readers live outside New England.

Struggles around race and class became particularly vibrant during the 1980s. GCN actively adopted an anti-racist agenda. For the first time, GCN's pages—especially its features pages—regularly sported the by-lines of people of color, and our annual Black History Supplement took shape during this period. There was less consensus around class issues. Stories addressing labor issues, housing and similar concerns sprung up only occasionally, and some staff took issue with an unacknowledged class bias in GCN's coverage of both political issues and gay/lesbian culture. One place where class and race connect has been GCN's unique Prisoner Project. What started as the office manager's way of responding to some prisoners' letters has developed into today's multi-faceted program that provides information, resources and support for gay men and lesbians behind the bars and their allies on the outside.

GCN was slow to give AIDS its due, although it was in the forefront of talking about the impact of AIDS on communities of color and on women. A writer once said GCN put the sex back in homosexuality, and indeed the paper's enthusiastic support of safe sex erotica and safe sex information set it apart from other gay papers that felt more comfortable with gay issues from the neck up.

GCN has gleefully swum against the political mainstream. Less comfortable has been the financial torrent that now washes the paper in red ink. Being out of step politically has meant not having access to lucrative advertisers. While being a community-owned non-profit has given GCN a proud independence, it has also meant no wealthy publisher to subsidize the losses. In a time of economic depression and staggering unemployment, many of our loyal readers/supporters are not in a position to give as generously as they have in the past. Ever-rising expenses, the economy and the internal pressures of a hard-pressed staff create a struggle for survival GCN does not relish.

We look around with dismay as other gay/lesbian and radical papers and journals have folded. We don't want that to be GCN's fate. Only with your support, GCN can continue the struggle we took on in 1973 and remain committed to almost 20 years later.

Gordon Gottlieb, a former Managing Editor, has been involved with GCN for longer than he cares to admit.

Porter

Continued from page 8

throwback. It's a straight-focused compilation designed to minimize, when not ignoring, the apparently discomfoting fact that Cole Porter, one of America's—and indeed the world's—most admired lyricist/composers was unapologetically queer.

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Sex

Continued from page 3

izing HIV transmission is not an effective way to prevent HIV transmission, some believe that those who know they are HIV positive are legally responsible for endangering other people by engaging in unsafe sex. "There are a few bad people out there who are capable of maliciously exposing other people to HIV," said Lambda's Wolfson, "and I am not saying they shouldn't be held responsible."

Alberto Gonzalez, an Oregon man who knew he was HIV positive but failed to tell his female sex partners and tried to donate plasma under a false name, was convicted of endangerment, Oct. 30.

Gonzalez reportedly negotiated with prosecutors so he would not have to spend time in jail. He pled guilty and received a sentence that includes six months' house arrest, five years' probation and a condition that he not engage in sex without first informing his partner of his HIV status. While under house arrest, he will wear an electronic bracelet that allows authorities to track his movements.

Oregon has no laws that specifically criminalize HIV exposure. Gonzalez's conviction is based on an existing statute against endangering another's life. Most AIDS activists believe such laws are sufficient for prosecuting the rare cases of someone maliciously spreading HIV.

In regard to laws that target individuals for transmitting HIV, the ACLU's Harlow said, "We're starting to see scapegoating of particular people, whereas HIV transmission [through sex or IV drug use] usually involves a reciprocal arrangement." She added, "It is the responsibility of each person to take precautions when he or she engages in an activity that could transmit HIV."

Oregon attorney Terry Wright, who also serves as vice-chair of a community-based AIDS advocacy group, worries that by prosecuting cases like Gonzalez's, authorities try to assign blame to individuals, instead of addressing the need for AIDS education. She points out that Gonzalez's sentence failed to include mandatory HIV education. "Criminal charges are not a means for stopping AIDS," said Wright. "Only public education on HIV transmission and precautions can achieve that."

—filed from Boston

CDC

Continued from page 3

CD4 cell counts

What the CDC did add to its "surveillance" definition of AIDS is a CD4 count of below 200. AIDS activists in ACT UP criticized the reliance on CD4 counts for four reasons: CD4 count tests are unreliable below 1000—according even to the government AIDS research branch; nine states do not offer any CD4 count tests; CD4 counts are not protected by anonymity, confidentiality laws or anti-discrimination laws; and CD4 tests are expensive, which means that the women and injection drug users who are currently excluded from the CDC's definition may not have access to them.

Activists point to a discrepancy between treatment of men and treatment of women and IV drug users. Even if HIV-infected women are dying of cervical cancer or chronic vaginal thrush (or HIV-infected IV drug users of pulmonary TB), they will not be recognized by the CDC unless they have fewer than 200 CD4 cells. But many will have more than 200 CD4 cells, and will therefore remain unrecognized, not counted, and not given disability money or health care.

Even men who suffer the "official" diseases do not always have under 200 CD4 cells. More than 25 percent of cases of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia occurred in individuals with CD4 counts of more than 250, according to the government's Multi-center AIDS Cohort. And more than 25 percent of individuals with KS had CD4 counts above 300.

The fact that CD4 tests are expensive (\$100-200 each), and are not offered in nine states makes such tests highly inaccessible, particularly for women, people of color, and injection drug users, who often have lower incomes.

"To base an entire revision on the basis of a seromarker which was never meant to be a reliable indication in people with low CD4 counts is simply a push by the CDC to institute a form of mandatory testing," Meredith said.

—filed from Boston

Women

Continued from page 3

University) in a few weeks.

Lesbian transmission

Because women in government-trials often do not self-identify as being lesbian, because woman-to-woman transmission is not one of the categories tracked by the

CDC, and because researchers in studies do not ask women if they have had female sex partners, lesbian transmission of HIV has been documented in a small number of cases.

In information that became public this week, of 287 women included in the observational data base of NIAID, seven (or 2.3 percent) were recorded as having contracted the virus from another woman. Because these seven women had to have pressured their individual researchers to record that the women believed they were infected by a woman, Meredith said, "I'm horrified that there are already 2.3 percent of women who self-identified in the face of all that research that is structured against [recording woman-to-woman transmission.]"

Still, some lesbians question the risk. "Some woman-to-woman transmission happens," Louise Rice, a nurse and AIDS educator at Massachusetts AIDS Action Committee, told *GCN*. "But lesbians with HIV are more likely to have contracted it through intravenous drug use or heterosexual sex." She said that although it is known that the concentration of HIV in vaginal secretions is less than that in blood or semen, it is difficult to determine the exact concentration in vaginal secretions because they change daily throughout the menstrual cycle. Contact with menstrual blood is probably the way most woman-to-woman transmission occurs, she said.

A study published in the Nov. 1990, *Journal of Public Health* revealed that in a group of approximately 78 HIV-positive women who define themselves as lesbians, 95 percent were IV drug users and five percent had had a blood transfusion, according to Rice. "If you're a lesbian and you're an IV drug user, they assume the risk factor is the drug use," she said, adding that since sharing needles is a known way in which the virus is easily transmitted, that assumption is probably correct.

However, one lesbian with AIDS who believes she contracted the virus from another lesbian disagrees. She argues that prevailing information—including that distributed by community AIDS groups including AIDS Action Committee and Fenway Community Health Center—downplays the risk of woman-to-woman sexual contact. "It's been proven that HIV can be transmitted through vaginal fluids," she told *GCN*, emphasizing the importance of safe sex for lesbians.

Although the woman said she feels it is reasonable for lesbians in monogamous relationships—who have both tested negative for HIV—to neglect safe-sex practices, she said lesbians who have casual encounters should practice safe sex. "When it comes to the bar scene, forget it," she said, "A lot of lesbians sleep with men or shoot drugs."

—filed from Boston

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OutWrite '92 Planning Committee seeks eager beavers and diligent domo homos to serve on conference working groups. OutWrite '92, the national lesbian and gay writer's conference, will be here March 20-22, 1992 in Boston and will be co-sponsored by *Out/Look* and *Gay Community News*. Call Sue at 426-4469.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Arts Group is open to most of the women living at MCI Framingham. The group meets Monday evening from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. For more info call Dunya at 547-6429 or Laura at 720-4012.

CAN YOU SPARE SOME TIME?

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Enjoy the excitement of a last minute pressure? Want to see for yourself how your favorite newsweekly gets put together? Don't have much to do on Thursday nights? The *GCN* production team is looking for one or two production volunteers for opportunities ranging from proofing, layout, or even design. We're looking for a few good queers. Call Adrianna at 426-4469 with questions.

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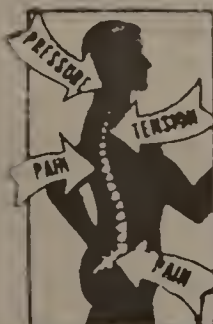
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AIDS INFORMATION COORDINATOR

At the National Prison Project of the ACLU Foundation. Coordinator is involved with a variety of tasks focusing on the issue of AIDS in prison including monitoring corrections policies and maintaining files of procedures regarding treatment of HIV-infected prisoners; responding to information requests on AIDS and prison issues; updating NPP "AIDS and Prison Bibliography;" filling orders and helping to develop and market NPP AIDS educational materials; working as a paralegal on AIDS prison cases. The ideal candidate will have a knowledge of the many complex issues involving AIDS and HIV; have a commitment to prisoner rights issues and AIDS advocacy; the ability to work and network with prisoners, corrections staff, AIDS educators, reporters; writing and editing skills; and be familiar with word processing and the use of computers. Candidates with some paralegal background will be strongly considered. Salary is \$20,000-\$25,000, with excellent benefits. Applications should include a current resume, the names and phone numbers of three references, and one general writing sample. Applications should be sent in by December 15, 1991 to: Kelly Gardner, National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, 1875 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 410, Washington, D.C. 20009. (21)

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3 LF's seek 4th for big beautiful apt. Friendly, independent house; porches, w/d, parking. Two rooms of your own wired for private phone. No smokers, no pets. \$365+. Avail. Nov. or Dec. 1. 522-9760 (16)

SOBER ROOMMATE WANTED 12/1

GM 28 and friendly housecat seek L or GM to share spacious apt. on Cambridge/Belmont line. Near bus. 7 min. ride to Harvard Sq. No alcohol/drugs/ "trick traffic." I am smoker (cigs. OK). 12-steppers esp. welcome. Call Michael 484-1389 leave msg. \$325 plus 1/2 util. (17)

ALLSTON

4 Queer Ls seeking 2 more to share sober, semi-coop, no hassle household. Near T and bus. 230 and 254/mnth + util. 254-0448 (16)

FUN, FRIENDLY APT IN J.P.

1 LF, 1 BiF seek 1 LF for progressive, semi-coop, veggie apt \$250+ 4 blks from T, 3 blks from Centre St. Lots of commonspace, yard, driveway, sm. porch. We are non-smoke, sober, fun. 522-9351 (10)

2ND & 3RD FLOOR IN E. ARLINGTON

2LF's seek 3rd for spacious, sunny 3BDR. Yard, porches, laundry, off-street parking, own phone line. No smk/pets \$400 + util. Call 648-0970 or 648-1724. (18)

HARVARD SQUARE AREA

LF seeks 25+ LF, BI or SF to share 2 bedroom apt. 5 min from harvard square. W/D and fire-place. No smoking. \$337.50 utilities included. Call 864-6609. (20)

DORCHESTER, Shawmut, 2 min. to T. Large kitchen + living room, front + back porches. 1 room \$250+ util. 2 room suite \$350+ util. Call Dave 825-8234. (19)

GREAT HOME

2 LF's and dog seek L to share friendly, comfortable house with yard in Somerville. 5 min. walk to Davis Sq and T. No smoke, drugs, min. alcohol. \$323 +, 776-6612 (18)

HAVERHILL MA

Roommate wanted—new 3 bedroom house. Quiet residential area off street parking. W/D all utils. incl 2 mins to 495. \$375 month. Call Mike (508) 521-0504 (21)

ROOMMATE WANTED

3 LF seek fourth for spacious JP house close to Centre Street and T. Front porch, off-street park-

MELVILLE PARK

GM, seek 1 more. LR, Dr sunrm, porch, mega yard, BIG bedrm. Near T. \$325+. 825-2722 (14)

PONDSIDE UP

3 IFs seek 4th for independent household. Large, beautiful apt. with 2 rooms of your own plus common space. 2 bathrooms, wash/dryer. Drug, alcohol, smoke free. No more cats. Avail. Jan 1st (or before) \$350+ 524-8040 or 522-4720 (19)

WATERTOWN SQUARE

LF acupuncture student seeks same to share cozy apartment on Charles River two blocks from Watertown Square. \$337+ 924-1317 (20)

Somerville. GM seeks M/F to share chic, large, mod. 2 br. apt. Big closets, EZ parking, big E-I-K w/DW. \$350/mo. Call Paul: 628-7618 (H) or 935-4900 (W). (20)

APARTMENTS

FORT HILL. New Reno. 1 Bdr apt. DW, laundry, friendly neigh, quiet street, \$550 heat, elec, gas included. Call 427-3350. (20)

Trees, view, breezes, sunlight, hardwood, offstreet parking. Quiet neighborhood near T. One bedroom apartment \$485 including all utilities. Drugfree women and gay house. 436-2583. (23)

NEWLY RENOVATED 2BR APT IN JP

Beautiful two family house on safe, quiet, dead-end street. Near pond, Arboretum and T. HW floors, LR/DR, eat-in kitchen, W/D, cozy backyard. Lesbian owned + occupied. Pets negotiable. No smokers, please. \$800 + utils. Avail Dec. 1, 522-2251. (20)

BRIGHTON CENTER

2 bedroom in a 2 family house. Eat-in kitchen. Clean. Quiet. Parking. No smoking. \$695 plus utilities. Call Cheryl 254-9203 (20)

Jamaica Plain: Refurbished and insulated 2 bedroom. Spacious, hardwood floors and natural woodwork throughout. 1st floor, 2 porches. Quiet street. Near T. Owner Occ'd. If you see it you will rent it. \$650+ util. 522-4773 pls leave message. (20)

PUBLICATIONS

GAYELLOW PAGES

Accommodations, AIDS/HIV resources, bars, bookstores, various businesses, health care, legal services, organizations, publications, religious groups, switchboards, therapists, travel agents, & much more, for gay women and men.

All prices below INCLUDE FIRST CLASS POSTAGE to USA, Canada & Mexico, in sealed, discreet envelopes. Mailing lists are strictly confidential.

Orders from outside USA (including Canada & Mexico): payment must be in US Funds payable on a US bank, or by Post Office or American Express money order. (We suggest you try a local bookstore first, to avoid possible Customs problems!)

US/CANADA. Canada and USA for women & men. City by city information for all US States, Canadian Provinces, and the US Virgin Islands, plus nationwide resources including headquarters of national organizations and caucuses; publications; mail order companies, etc. \$12.00; outside N. America \$8 (airmail) NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY. NY & NJ; separate Women's Section; Manhattan bar notes by Jerry Fitzpatrick. \$5.00; outside N. America \$8 (airmail)

SOUTHERN/Southern Midwest. 64 pages. AL, AZ, AR, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, MS, MO, NM, NC, OK, PR, SC, TN, TX, US Virgin Islands, VA. \$5.00; outside N. America \$8 (airmail)

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WOMEN'S REVIEW OF BOOKS

monthly review of current feminist writing. Since 1983. Our readers span the U.S., Canada, and abroad. Subscriptions: \$15/U.S., \$18/Canada, \$25/institutions. Free sample on request. THE WOMEN'S REVIEW, Wellesley Women's Research Center, Wellesley, MA 02181. (ex)

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A Journal of Irreverent Feminism. Quarterly of commentary, analysis, reviews, cartoons & humor by and for women who agree to disagree—who are still political, but not necessarily correct. Sample \$1.50/sub. \$6 more if/less if. LesCon, 584 Castro, No. 236G, SF, CA 94114. (18.35)

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PRISONERS SEEKING FRIENDS

Sexy frenchman, 24, seeks relationship. Ken LaFlamme, #819559, 1150 S.W. Allapattah Road, Indiantown, FL 34956

GM seeking serious individual. Likes fishing, weight lifting, *long* intimate evens., with sensitive and caring GM. Chris Highland, PO Box 014 Maple, NC 27956

Looking for loyal friend. Very athletic type who loves the outdoors, 22. Charles Haworth, #98692, PO Box 97, McAlester, OK 74502-0097

GM, 28, looking for someone caring, understanding, who can accept people for who they are. Richard Webb #47092, ASPC-T-Echo, Box 110, 10,000 S. Wilmot Rd. Tucson, AZ 85777-0007

GM, soon to be released, seeks GM for correspondence and hopefully more. In need of real friend. Donnie E. James, PO Box 014, Maple, NC 27956

Black gay male, sexy looking, seeking most precious possession a person can have: a good loving friend. Kevin Shamborghe #17511, C.T. C. F., Tone Road, Kincheloe, Michigan 499785

22, new to being gay, Hispanic male, looking for sincere and sexy male who is interested in serious, clean relationship. Hugo Gonzales, #E1099481/D2-115, PO Box 7500, Crescent City, CA 95531

I am a little white chicken, beautiful as sweet and young as beautiful and soft as young and gay as soft and innocent as gay. I dare you to write. Ronald Smith, C-08074, Old Folson, PO Box W, Represa, CA 95671

Lonely? Me too. I'm looking for someone I can call my own. I enjoy writing and music. Please write! Keith Sheppard, A121152 Box 616, 33123 Oil Well Road, C.C.I., Punta Gorda, FL 33955

I like a good sense of style and creativity. If you'd like to be friends that's fine too. Chris Whitesell, #127439, PO Box 97, McAlester OK 74501

It is Ohhhhhh so lonely in here. I'm hoping to meet a caring friend. In writing to someone I will have a way to mentally escape this nightmare of a place. Charles Walker DOC #130496, Camp-D-Hawk-3-R-9, Louisiana State Penitentiary, Angola LA 70712

Would love to meet a mate that's capable of doing "it" as good as I can. Michael Littles, #047123, PO Box 747, Stark Fla., 32091

GM, professional person before running afoul of the age of consent laws in N.Y. would like to correspond with any gay or like minded person. Wayne Hunt, PO Box AG/85A8050, Fallsburg, N.Y. 12733-0116

GM, 24. Release 6 mos. Sincere, honest, romantic, gregarious, no drugs, no smoke. High libido. Looking for same for perm. mono. rel. Can't write prisoners. Randall J. Hole, 814840-172, POB 279, East Palatka, FL 32131

BROOMSTICK

A quarterly national feminist political journal by, for and about women over forty, 3543 18th st. #3, San Francisco, CA 94110. Yearly subscriptions: U.S. \$15, Canada \$20 (U.S. funds), Overseas and Institutions \$25. Sample copy \$5. Free to incarcerated women over forty. A magazine of midlife and long-living women's personal experiences and positive images of ourselves and our struggles; a network of over-forty women who are committed to opposing agism and sexism and to developing our understanding of our lives.

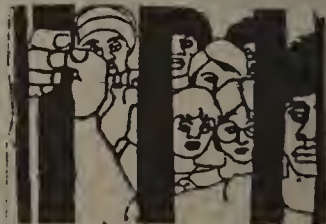
RYAN'S VISION QUARTERLY

Is a new publication for citizens & prisoners with AIDS., We report on treatments, news, activism, statistics etc. in the prison system. \$20 annually to: Ryan's Vision, Suite 6F, 277 Prospect Ave, Hackensack, NJ, 07601. Free to Prisoners. (19)

Women Seeking Friends

31, new to the gay world. Divorced female, who has been married 3 times. Barbara Kennedy, 8000 West 7th Ave, #3368-1, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, 71603-1498

I am looking for a new Wife today in life. 47 y.o. I have a lot of love to give a woman from my heart. I don't need games today in life, just a lot of love and understanding and a good woman to love. JoAnne Benoit, #2590, Unit 1, Room 10, Bed B, 8000 West 7th St. Pine Bluff, Ark. 71603-1498



Looking for friend, GM, 21, Blonde hair, blue eyes. Tommy Chappell, #91711, M.S.U. Star Rt. Box 22-B, Tucker, AR., 72168

Bi male looking for down to earth friendships, no pity needed. Keith Lambert, #0995045, F.S.P., PO Box 747, Starke, FL 32091

GM looking for friendship and someone to spend time with. Into Metaphysics and the supernatural. George Haddad, #57410, Unit 29-C, Parchman, MS. 38738

Seeking caring, considerate, honest person. 31 y.o. GM. "So don't be shy," I can write prisoners, will answer all. P. "KJ" Deckur, 185-353 11781 St Rt 762, Orient OH 43146

GM, kind, like sex with a lot of passion. Like horses, cars, reading, crochet and am very independent. Write: Michael Dale Box 514-123916, Granite OK 73547

GM seeking that mature friend. Need assistance to help me make it (parole plan needed)! Emmette Mitchell C-22649 C-7-110, PO Box 29, Represa CA 955671. Only serious need write.

Attractive, Green Beret, Body Builder. Intelligent, aggressive but gentle, open-minded, intuitive. Send candid/revealing letter and I'll respond in kind immediately. Robert Todd, #023046, ZCI, PO Box 518, Zephyrhills, Fla 33539-0518

Gay country boy who loves TVs and TS, shemales also and would love to hear from them. Neil Boyd, E-25376, A-3-101, PO Box 29, Represa, CA 95671

LIFER looking for new and interesting friends who'd like to write. Interests: Ham Radio, Computers, languages, Calculus, flying, Mexico, London & Paris. Pat Kearney, B-88913, Y-207, Soledad, CA, 93969-0689

28 GM looking to correspond with the mature segment of the gay community. I'm into athletics and arts and crafts. Sorry, can't write other prisoners. Jimmy Lee Crowe, #468883 Box 16, Lovelady, TX 75851

I am very lonely. Having someone who cares enough to write would make me feel much better. Leland Bishop, B24346, PO Box 3476-4AIL-#36, Corcolan, CA 93212

Black male, like running, playing handball and other sports. Very lonely, would like to write an understanding guy who will treat me right. Tony Ricks, 08291 U.C.I. G-39, PO Box 221 Raiford, Fla 32083

Calendar

2 December, Boston ♦ "Boston's Grandest Cabaret". Featuring Forever Plaid, Belle Linda Halpern, Nunsense and more. Proceeds to benefit The Living with AIDS Theatre Project. The Roxy, 279 Tremont St. 6:30 cocktails followed by entertainment and dancing. \$10. For more info 227-ROXY.

Calendar listings must be received by the Monday before the week of the event. Photos encouraged! Listings may also be sent electronically by the Please specify if event is or is not wheelchair accessible and/or sign language interpreted. Please use our format as a guide for listings, including time, date, place, and a contact person. All listings must be typed. Please note that listings are printed only as space allows; we regret that we cannot print every submission.

Phone numbers listed are in the 617 area code, and cities are in Massachusetts, unless otherwise noted.

30 SATURDAY

Jamaica Plain ♦ Joyce & Justina in concert. Donation. 8 pm. Crone's Harvest, 761 Centre St. Info: 983-9530.

Northampton ♦ 12th Annual Lesbian Homeshow through Dec. 1st. Crafts 10-4:30 pm \$1-3; Dinner Theatre 5:30-7:30 pm \$3-5; Dance 8:30-12 pm \$4-6. Center for the Arts, 17 South St.

DECEMBER 1 SUNDAY

Boston ♦ Mahtowin, member of Oglala Lakota Nation, will speak at the Community Church, 565 Boylston St., Copley Square. 11 am.

Boston ♦ Exhibition organized in conjunction with Visual AIDS/Day Without Art. 50 Photos: a Phase I, Randomized Trial. Through Jan. 26. Opening is Dec. 6.; Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave.

Cambridge ♦ *Offerings of Hope/Offerings of Remembrance.* Harvard University Art Museums observe *Day Without Art.* Photographs, poems, copies of letters, flowers, etc. are welcome offerings for an altar installation in the Fogg courtyard. Through Dec. 5. 30 Quincy St. Info: 495-2378.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Batk exhibition by Jeri Levitt. Donation. 6-7:30 pm. Crone's Harvest, 761 Centre St. Info: 983-9530.

Dorchester ♦ Annual Auction and Potluck for GALA (Dorchester Gay/Lesbian Assoc.). All welcome. At John's. 6pm. Info: 825-3737.

2 MONDAY

Boston ♦ NOW Annual Business Meeting: All members are welcome to attend. Elect the 1992 Board and Review 1991 Board Actions. National Organization for Women-Boston Chapter, 971 Commonwealth Ave. Info: 782-1056.

Boston ♦ "Boston's Grandest Cabaret". Featuring Forever Plaid, Belle Linda Halpern, Nunsense and more. Proceeds to benefit The Living with AIDS Theatre Project. The Roxy, 279 Tremont St. 6:30 cocktails followed by entertainment and dancing. \$10. For more info 227-ROXY.

3 TUESDAY

Boston ♦ *Taking Sexual Harassment Seriously.* Forum sponsored by the Committee on Violence Against Women. Info: 782-1056.

Cambridge ♦ Racism and Capitalism in America—Spartacist Youth Club class and discussion. 8 pm. Harvard University, Room 105, William James Hall. Info: 492-3928.

Boston ♦ Tefillat Refuat Hanefesh, the *Service for the Healing of the Soul.* 6 pm. Info: 566-3960.

Wellesley ♦ AIDS Awareness Walk sponsored by the Wellesley Walking Club. 4 pm. Sports Center, Wellesley College.

4 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ Combatting Homophobia in ROTC and Military Recruiting on Campus. Forum sponsored by GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders). Northeastern University School of Law. 400 Huntington Ave. Wheelchair accessible, ASL interpreted. For more info 426-1350.

5 THURSDAY

Boston ♦ Pomo Afro Homos present celebration of black gay life in five shows. Through Dec. 8.\$10. Thurs., Fri. and Sun. 8 pm; Sat. two shows, 7:30 and 10 pm. Boston Center for the Arts Theater, 539 Tremont St. Info: 437-6200, ext 480.

Cambridge ♦ General meeting of the Cambridge Lavender Alliance. 7-9 pm. Cambridge Rindge & Latin School, Media Cafeteria. Info: 876-3874 or 868-1693.

Boston ♦ Temple Israel of Boston presents Livingston Taylor in a benefit concert to resettle New Americans from the Soviet Union. \$10. 8 pm. Info: 566-3960.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Folk Concert with Kathy Phipps and Damaris. Suggested donation \$5. 8pm. Wheelchair accessible. Crone's Harvest, 761 Centre St. Info: 983-9530.

6 FRIDAY

Cambridge ♦ *Chlv Berlet* in MIT 9-150. *The Right Wing Attack on Civil Liberties.* Free. 8 pm. Info: 524-1043 or 437-9309.

Cambridge ♦ Women and Work Day. Women sharing work experiences. 12-9 pm. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807.

Pittsfield ♦ The Berkshire Public Theatre hosts *A Christmas Carol.* Through the 22nd. Thurs., Fri. and Sat. 8 pm. Sunday matinees at 2 pm. \$15 and \$18,

children 12 and under half price. Info: (413) 445-4634.

Brookline ♦ Am Tikva, Boston's community of lesbian and gay Jews, holds Shabbat Services. 8 pm. at All Saint's Episcopal Church, 1773 Beacon St. Wheelchair accessible. Info: 926-2536.

7 SATURDAY

Washington, D.C. ♦ Smithsonian Resident Associate Program holds seminar: *The Fate of the Avant-Garde in Nazi Germany.* 9:30 - 5:45 pm. \$65 for non-members; \$40 for students. Info: (202) 357-3030.

Cambridge ♦ Women performers, musicians, dancers, etc. needed for 8th Annual International Women's Day Video Festival. Noon-6 pm. Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St.

Boston ♦ *A Remembrance.* The premiere staged reading of a play by Marle R. Wit. \$7. 7 pm. 3 Joy St. Info: (508) 481-0331.

Boston ♦ Realistic, streetwise self-defense. An 8 hr., 2 day workshop for women and girls. Also Dec. 8. Sanchin Women's School of Karate and Self-Defense. Info: 547-3889.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Third Annual Auction for the Arts at the Jamaica Plain Firehouse Multicultural Art Center. \$7 advance, \$10 door. 7-11 pm. Info: 524-3816.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Fourth Annual Holiday Crafts and Imports Festival at the Jamaica Plain Firehouse Multicultural Art Center. First three weekends of the month. Free. Info: 524-3816.

8 SUNDAY

Boston ♦ Ninth Annual Holiday Auction sponsored by AIDS Action Committee. The agency's longest running fundraising event features items from Bette Midler, Vincent Price, Ronald Reagan and more. Free. For more info 437-6200 x347.

Boston ♦ New England Assoc. of Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Psychologists. Monthly Meeting. The Center. 338 Newbury St. 10am-noon.

9 MONDAY

Boston ♦ The Committee on Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Issues, NASW (Mass Chapter) invite all interested social workers to discussion on "Therapeutic Boundaries and Self-disclosure". For more info 964-3448.

New York ♦ Graphic Fact: An exhibition of AIDS posters from around the world. Presented by The National Museum of Lesbian and Gay History and The Lesbian and Gay Community Center. For Info (212) 533-1665.

10 TUESDAY

Somerville ♦ Healing Service for All Those Affected by AIDS. First Congregational Church, 95 College Ave. 8:30pm. For more info 628-7665.

Amherst ♦ P-FLAG, Pioneer Valley celebrates their 5th anniversary. Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall. 6:30 pm. For Info (413) 532-4883.

11 WEDNESDAY

Cambridge ♦ Polson, film directed by Todd Haynes. Shown at MIT, Bldg. 66, rm 110. 25 Ames St. 789pm. For more info 253-3599.

Springfield ♦ Gayness, Oppression, Homophobia Series at Springfield College continues. Topic: "Religious Support Groups." Locklin Hall, 233. For more info (413) 788-3221.

12 THURSDAY

Portland, ME ♦ "Domestic Violence in the Lesbian and Gay Community" moderated by Lois Reckitt. Portland Public Library. For more info (207) 657-2850.

13 FRIDAY

Boston ♦ Keeping Girl on Girl Kinky Sex Safe with Peg Preble, Jennifer Bragdon and GCN's own Wickie Stamps. Live talk and hot tips for pleasure and safety. Women only. FCHC, 7 Havland St.. Wheelchair accessible. Free. For Info 267-0900 x287.

Boston ♦ "Still Killing Us Softly" a film and discussion on media images of women presented by Women's Network. Roxbury Community College, Bldg. 3, rm 121,1234 Columbus Ave. 6:30-8:30pm. For more info 282-0980

SATURDAYS

Boston ♦ Frontrunners. Meet at Metropolitan Health Club for 2 to 5-mi. run along Charles. Lockers and showers \$1.00. 10am. Also: Tues. 11:45pm. at MHC; Wed. 6:45 pm. at Hatch Shell; Sun. 3:00pm. at Jamaica Pond Boathouse. Info: Sara 524-4025.

Boston ♦ "Two-Steppin' for AIDS" Texas Two-stepping and line dancing for the HIV positive community and their friends. At the Boston Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St., 7th fl, Third Saturdays, 7:00-12:00pm. Donations go to direct services for people with AIDS. Info: 236-1012.

Cambridge ♦ Single Mothers' Support Group. Free drop-in group with child care, alternate Saturdays. Women's Center. 48 Pleasant St. 11am-12:30 pm. 354-8807.



Boston ♦ Pink Flamingos. TV/TS of New England. 4 to 6 pm. 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. 247-2927.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime—Boston G/L TV, with Cynthia Pape. 7:30 p.m. Boston Neighborhood Network, channels A3 and A8. Also on Cambridge Cable Channel 19, 7 pm. Tuesdays, and on other systems; check your listings.

Jamaica Plain ♦ Women's Coffeehouse. Musical entertainment, usually. 8 pm. Crone's Harvest, 761 Centre St. \$5 suggested donation. 983-9530.

Cambridge ♦ A multicultural story hour for children aged 3-8. Sponsored by FCHC and Lesbian Mothers Group. Third Sat. of every month. Info: 267-0900 ext 292.

SUNDAYS

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY) Drop-In Center. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin. (800) 42BAGLY.

Boston ♦ Work Issues Support Group. 2 to 4 pm G/L Comm. Ctr., 338 Newbury St.

Boston ♦ Boston Strikers Soccer Club. Weekly novice and club scrimmages. All levels. 3 pm. Info: Erik 423-0929 or Jeff 876-7612.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Sports. Magazine Field, Memorial Dr. Spons. by DOB. Softball 4 to 6 pm; volleyball 6 pm 'til dark. \$1. Info: Steph 625-9551.

Boston ♦ Dignity Mass. Liturgy followed by a social hour. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. 5:30 p.m. 536-6518.

Boston ♦ Western Orthodox Church Mass. Arlington St. Church, 351 Boylston St. 227-5794.

Provincetown ♦ Christian Healing Service. 5:30 pm. 96 Bradford St. (P-Town AIDS Support Grp.) Pot luck dinner to follow. (508) 487-3866.

Boston ♦ Metropolitan Community Church Worship/Fellowship. 131 Cambridge St. (near Govt Ctr.). 7 pm. Info: Rev. Tanis 437-0420.

Boston ♦ Narcotics Anonymous. UGM. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 8 pm. 247-2927.

Boston ♦ The Gay Dating Show, WUNR 1600AM. 10:30pm-2:30 am.

Boston ♦ Different Strokes Swim Team. Coached work-outs for swimmers of all abilities. 10:15. Info: 767-0449 or 282-3110.

MONDAYS

Boston ♦ New Support Group for Recovering Women with HIV/AIDS. Sponsored by Women, Inc. Call Magda or Christine for a screening interview 442-6166.

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 12:25 p.m. 262-3456.

Boston ♦ Children Downhill Skiing Lessons. Monday nights at Nashoba Valley ski area. Info: Jim 843-3966.

Boston ♦ Monday Night Dinners for PWA's and Friends: about 100 people meeting every Monday at AAC for dinner. No reservations required. 6 p.m. AAC, 131 Clarendon St. 437-6200.

Dorchester ♦ Alcoholics Anonymous. First Parish Church, Mtg. Hs. Hill. Beginners 6:30, hardhats 8 p.m.

Boston ♦ Queer Nation meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at new location: Local 26, 58 Berkeley, 3rd Floor. 7:00 pm.

Boston ♦ Boston Bisexual Women's Network Coordinating Comm. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 247-2927.

Worcester ♦ AIDS Project Worcester. A support group for family, friends, concerned others dealing with HIV. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 pm. (508)755-3773.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap Group. Topic: 11/18 "Coming out to your parents," 11/25 "What to do with your 'ex' on the holidays." The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 8-10 pm. 354-8807.

Cable TV ♦ "Between Takes." Often a g/l slant on events. Boston A3 Mondays 9:30 pm. Cambridge CCTV Thursdays 8:30 pm. Rhode Island Interconnect A Fridays 8:30 pm. Other areas: check listings.

TUESDAYS

Providence, RI ♦ ACT UP/Rhode Island. Call for meeting place (401) 461-4191.

Gloucester ♦ Healing Circle / Positively Clean and Sober. Healing circle 6:30 to 8 p.m., open to anyone facing chronic or life-threatening illness. Pos. C&S 8 to 9 p.m., for people living with HIV and dealing with subst. abuse issues. N. Shore AIDS Project, 19 Pleasant St. (508) 283-0101.

Boston ♦ ACT UP/Boston. The Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. 7 p.m. 49-ACTUP.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap. Topic: 11/19 "Lesbians of different cultures," 11/26 "Open rap." The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-8:30. 354-8807.

Medford Radio ♦ "We the People"—with feminist Sheila Parks. WMFO 91.5FM. 7-9a.m. Tufts U. radio.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ G/B Men and Their Significant Others. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 p.m. (508) 755-3773.

Boston ♦ L/G Freedom Trail Band Rehearsals. No audition necessary. Mass College of Art, Longwood and Brookline Ave. 7:15 p.m. 266-0628.

Amherst ♦ P-FLAG, Pioneer Valley Monthly meetings held 2nd Tues. of month. Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall. 6:30 pm. For Info (413) 532-4883.

WEDNESDAYS

Boston ♦ Women in the Building Trades will be offering free introductory workshops. 6:00-8:00pm from 10/30-12/4. At 555 Amory St. Call 524-3010 to pre-register or for info.

Cambridge ♦ Job search support group. Cambridge Women's Center. 6:30-8:30 pm. Info: 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Sales Networks Program for G/L Business Owners and Supporters of the Community. 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. Registration required: Marc Spencer 262-2400.

Hyde Park ♦ Women's Pick-Up Hockey. MDC Hyde Park Rink (near Dedham). 8 to 9 a.m. Info: Janice 326-1600 x350.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY). Open to youth age 22 and under. 35 Bowdoin St. New persons' meeting 6 pm.; women and men meet separately 6:45 to 7:30; general meeting 7:30 pm. (800) 42-BAGLY.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian At-Anon. Wheelchair accessible. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 6:30 to 8 p.m. 354-8807.

Springfield ♦ Names Project Meeting. New chapter with weekly quilting meetings. All welcome. Frontier. 19 Pearl St. 7 to 10 p.m. (413)788-7459

Worcester ♦ Supporters of Worcester Area G/L Youth (SWAGLY). Social support grp. for youths 22 and under. 7 to 9 p.m. United Congregational Church, 6 Institute Road. 7 to 9 p.m. (508) 755-0005.

Boston ♦ Bisexual Adult Children of Alcoholics. Mass. General Hospital. 7:30 p.m. Info: Marge 259-1559.

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 7:30 p.m. 262-3456.

Bridgewater ♦ S. Shore G/L Alliance. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Bridgewater Ctr. Primarily a social group of age 25+, but all welcome. Info: Glen 293-5183 or Dave 294-0367.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ who are in Substance Abuse Recovery. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7:30 to 9 p.m. (508) 755-3773.

Amherst ♦ Queer Nation meets 6:00-7:00pm at Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk. Info: P.O. Box 202, Hadley, MA 01035 or (413) 584-4213.

THURSDAYS

Boston ♦ The Boston Monthly HIV Medical Update. 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place (near Copley green and Back Bay/South End Orange T stations). Info: 262-3456.

Somerville ♦ The Thursday Night Dinner Program offers meals to PWA's HIV+ and friends at the Methodist Church. One block from Davis Square Red Line Station. Info: 666-4130.

Boston ♦ Boston Area Rape Crisis Center drop-in group for women who have been raped. 492-RAPE.

Boston ♦ Names Project Quilting Bee — for the AIDS Memorial Quilt. Sewing supplies and support provided. Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon St. 7th flr. 7 to 9 p.m. Info 451-9003.

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Out and About. A lesbian social and support group. Info: Keryn (603) 749-5852.

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 7:30 p.m. 262-3456.

Provincetown ♦ Positive PWA Coalition Weekly Rap Session. 7:30. 155 Bradford St. Peer led. (508) 487-3998.

Boston ♦ The Group. Discussion and social hour. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 734-2076.

Boston ♦ L/G Ice Hockey Practices and Intersquad Scrimmages. All levels. 9 p.m. Grrr Bos. rink. Info: John 350-6063, Al 522-1408.

Cambridge ♦ GAMIT Study Break. (GAMIT = Gays at MIT.) GAMIT lounge, room 50-306, 142 Memorial Dr.

Boston ♦ Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights general meeting. Third Thurs. of every month. 6:30-8 pm. Lesbian/Gay Community Center, Room 206, 338 Newbury St. Info: 266-2956.

FRIDAYS

Watertown ♦ GLOW: G/L of Watertown. 395-4664.

Boston ♦ GCN Friday Night Stuffing Party. Come stuff the paper, eat pizza, and make new friends. GCN, 62 Berkeley St. 5 p.m. 426-4469.

Somerville ♦ Swing and C/W Dance for G/L/B. 8 p.m., swing and two-step lessons; 9 p.m. to mid-night, dancing. Smoke / alcohol free, juice bar. Air cond. \$5. "On Broadway," 880 Broadway. 623-9532.

Provincetown ♦ Safe Sex Brigade and Anti-L/G/B Violence Campaign. Volunteers meet on steps of P-Town Post Office Friday and Sunday nights at 11:30 p.m. through Labor Day. Info: ACT UP (508) 487-2063.



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